

SPEECHES

BY THE

MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE,

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.

AUTUMN TOUR.

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SPEECHES

OF THE

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.

AUTUMN TOUR, 1890.

OPENING THE DUFFERIN HOSPITAL AT PATIALA.

[On Tuesday morning, the 21st October 1890, the Viceroy, accompanied by Colonel J. C. Ardagh, C.B. (Private Secretary), Lieutenant-Colonel Lord William Beresford, V.C., C.I.E. (Military Secretary), and other members of His Excellency's staff, with Mr. W. J. Cunningham, Officiating Foreign Secretary, left Simla for his autumn tour. At 8-15, on the morning of the 22nd October, the Viceroy arrived at Patiala, the object of His Excellency's visit being to place the Maharaja on the musnud and to invest him with full administrative powers. His Highness, accompanied by his State Officials, received His Excellency at the railway station with the usual ceremonies: Here also the Viceroy was met by Sir James Lyall (Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab), and a large number of Civil and Military Officials of the Province, who had been specially invited to Patiala by the Maharaja. 22nd Oct. 1890.]

The Viceroy, accompanied by the Maharaja, drove to the large camp pitched for the occasion, and the forenoon was spent in visits of ceremony between His Excellency and His Highness. In the afternoon, Lord Lansdowne opened the Lady Dufferin Hospital, the foundation-stone of which was laid by Lady Dufferin on the 19th of November 1888. A large shamiana had been pitched in front of the hospital, and beneath this the Viceroy took his seat on a dais, with the Lieutenant-Governor on his right hand and the Maharaja on his left. The Sardars and State Officials were assembled to witness the ceremony together with a number of visitors from camp. Dr. Thompson, Superintendent of the State Medical Department, read a statement in which he gave an account of the various medical institutions in Patiala, in-

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cluding the hospital about to be opened. At the conclusion of this statement His Excellency rose and spoke as follows:—]

Your Honor, Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I am glad that my first public act in the State of Patiala should be the opening of this Hospital. Its completion is a substantial addition to the strength of a movement in which I have, on more than one occasion, expressed my interest—the great and useful movement commenced by Lady Dufferin and bequeathed by her as a legacy to Lady Lansdowne and myself.

The State of Patiala already possesses the well-known Rajender Hospital, which I hope to visit later in the afternoon, and which was opened by Sir Charles Aitchison in 1883—an institution upon which I believe your Highness's Government has incurred, up to the present time, an expenditure of no less than a lakh and-a-half of rupees. In addition to this, there is a Military Hospital, a Jail Hospital, and a branch Dispensary, in the City of Patiala, besides 17 Dispensaries in the Mofussil. No special provision had, however, been yet made for the treatment of women, and, two years ago, on the occasion of your Highness's marriage, you expressed your intention of erecting this Hospital, and of setting aside Rs 10,000 per annum for its maintenance. The foundation-stone of the building was laid by Lady Dufferin, whose name the Hospital will bear, and whose thoughtful interest in the people of this country could not be more appropriately commemorated. The Hospital is now completed, and will be, in years to come, both a monument of your Highness's liberality and a source of untold blessings to the people of Patiala. That the buildings will be suitable to the purpose for which they have been designed, and will be a proper home for this valuable institution, those who have seen them can have little doubt.

But, Ladies and Gentlemen, if we are to have efficient hospitals, we want something more than commodious and well-equipped buildings. It is absolutely necessary that

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these institutions, which are intended for the relief of women, should be presided over by a lady doctor, possessing not only professional skill, but administrative ability of a high order. One of the greatest difficulties with which we have to contend in India is that of obtaining the services of properly qualified ladies for this purpose. In this case the difficulty has, I am glad to say, been successfully surmounted. Miss Crawley, M.D., whose experience was gained while she was in charge of an Edinburgh Hospital of high standing, was engaged by the express desire of His Highness, at the beginning of the present year, and has been able to place the administration of the Hospital upon a most satisfactory footing.

I learn that, since Miss Crawley has been in Patiala, no less than 2,400 visits have been made by patients to the Dispensary, and it is particularly gratifying to find that the number of visits more than doubled after the first two months, and has increased steadily ever since. It is obvious that the difficulty of treating patients in the absence of proper hospital accommodation was very great—so great in fact that the attempt to treat patients in the Dispensary had to be abandoned. The conditions will be entirely altered with the opening of the Hospital, and we need, I think, be under no apprehension that Miss Crawley will find that its advantages will remain unappreciated by those who stand in need of medical, or surgical, treatment.

I am glad to have this opportunity of expressing my acknowledgment of the generous manner in which the Lady Dufferin Scheme has been supported by the Princes and Chiefs of this part of India. They were among the first to come forward when the movement was in its earliest infancy, and it is most satisfactory to find that many of them are now freely establishing hospitals in their own dominions and making arrangements for the maintenance of those hospitals at the cost of their States. No better example of this generosity on the part of rulers of Native

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States could be found than that afforded by the hospital which I am now invited to open, and I am glad to say that a similar institution is now being built by His Highness the Raja of Kapurthala, while the Progress Reports of the Committee of the Dufferin Fund show throughout India other hospitals are rapidly coming into existence, in all cases generously supported and encouraged by the rulers of the different States.

Before I conclude, I desire to acknowledge the great value of the services which have been rendered to the Patiala Hospital by Dr. George Thompson, the Resident Surgeon, without whose friendly co-operation the hospital certainly would not have attained the measure of success, which it has achieved. I think both Dr. Thompson and also Mr. Field, the Executive Engineer, who has, I understand, a large share of responsibility for the design of these buildings, deserve our hearty congratulations upon this occasion.

I will now, with your Highness's permission, proceed to the buildings opposite and declare the Hospital open to the public. (*Applause.*)

INSTALLATION OF THE MAHARAJA OF PATIALA.

[The most important ceremonial connected with the Viceroy's visit 23rd Oct. 1890. to Patiala took place on Thursday, 23rd October 1890, when the Maharaja Rana was placed on the musnud, and invested with full administrative powers, he having enjoyed for some months past provisional powers only. The ceremony took place in the large Durbar Hall in the Palace which is usually chosen for functions of this kind. On the dais were placed two silver chairs of State, flanking the musnud itself on which His Highness was to be installed. To the right rear was placed the Patiala Standard which was presented to the late Maharaja at the Proclamation Durbar at Delhi in 1876. A guard-of-honour joined the approach from the Palace yard to the Durbar Hall, the terrace of which was covered over in shamiana fashion with brightly coloured canvas. To the right of the dais were grouped the chief officers and durbaries of the State, while British officers in full dress, and visitors from camp were allotted seats on either hand of the entrance. A number of ladies were also present to witness the ceremony.

The Maharaja, accompanied by his officers, arrived some little time before the Viceroy. Soon after nine o'clock a deputation, consisting of four high officials, waited on the Viceroy in camp, and His Excellency, escorted by a detachment of cavalry, drove to the Palace, accompanied by the Lieutenant Governor, and attended by the Foreign Secretary, the Private and Military Secretaries, and the personal staff. The Viceroy, on arrival, was received with a royal salute and a procession was formed to the dais, the Maharaja accompanying His Excellency to his seat, while the Maharaja's brother performed a similar duty to the Lieutenant-Governor. The Viceroy, the Maharaja, and the Lieutenant-Governor having taken their seats on the lower step of the dais, and the assembly being all seated, the Viceroy rose and spoke as follows :—]

For the first time since my accession to the Viceroyalty, two years ago, it falls to my lot to formally invest with full powers the Ruling Chief of an Indian State. It is a source of satisfaction to me that the State should be that of Patiala, and that your Highness should be the Chief whom I am called upon to instal.

The relations of the Patiala State with the British Government have, for many years past, been of the most cordial character. Upon three separate occasions during the course

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of the present century your Highness's predecessors have, at critical moments in the history of this country, given practical proof of their fidelity, and upon each of those occasions the forces of the State have co-operated with those of the British Empire, and have rendered services which received a suitable acknowledgment at the time. The memory of those services has not been forgotten.

In your Highness I am glad to recognise a Ruler who is likely to maintain these worthy traditions, and to strengthen still further the feeling of friendship which unites the Patiala State and the Imperial Government.

The circumstances under which your Highness's career as a Ruler will commence are in every sense propitious and encouraging. During your minority the affairs of the State were wisely and prudently administered by a Council, the Members of which—men of wide experience and excellent judgment—have, under the presidency of the late lamented Sirdar Sir Dewa Singh, prudently directed its affairs, and have been able to hand them over to your Highness in excellent order and in a sound financial condition. I feel sure that no one more cordially than your Highness acknowledges your obligation to the Council, to the excellence of whose work I am glad to have this opportunity of paying a hearty tribute. It is a matter of deep regret that the President Sir Dewa Singh—who so long and faithfully served the best interests of the State and of his master, and whose advice and assistance, had he been spared to live longer, would, I am sure, have been at your Highness's disposal—is not among us to-day.

In praising the Council of Regency for their good administration I do not forget the fact that an equal share in the credit is due to the Ministers, or Heads of Departments, who worked under the Council with the same sense of discipline and loyalty to the interests of the State which they had shown under your Highness's father, the late Maharaja. I am glad to know that three of these minis-

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ters, who were appointed by your father, retained their important offices throughout the administration of the Council and still hold them. I refer to Khalifa Muhammad Hussan, Khalifa Muhammad Hussain, and Sardar Gunda Singh, and I consider the Patiala State to be very fortunate in retaining so long the services of three men of such mature experience, and proved ability and integrity.

Your Highness has, I am glad to say, shown early in life that you possess many of those qualities of head and heart which are most essential to the success of one to whom is entrusted the welfare of a numerous community, and the intelligent interest which you evinced in public affairs justified me, upon the strong recommendation of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, in entrusting you provisionally with full powers over the State some months before the date at which you attained your majority.

I am glad to know that the powers thus conferred upon you have been exercised in such a manner as to afford the fairest promise for the future. You have shown that you will not be content with the formal and ornamental functions of a Ruler, but that you are prepared to interest yourself actively in all that concerns the well-being of your subjects. I have noticed with satisfaction the manner in which your Highness has already identified yourself with useful movements for the improvement of agriculture, for increasing the efficiency of the military forces which the State contributes to the defences of the Empire, and for promoting the cause of education. The Patiala State was one of the first to come forward under the scheme unfolded two years ago by my distinguished predecessor, Lord Dufferin, in your Highness's Durbar, and I am glad to say that the reports which I have received of the spirit and discipline of your Highness's troops are most satisfactory and encouraging.

Your Highness's interest in education has been illustrated by your liberal donation to the Punjab University, which appropriately commemorated the visit of His Royal High-

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ness Prince Albert Victor of Wales to this country, and also by your Highness's generous support of the College, which is about to be founded for the education of members of the Sikh community. With this movement the Government of India is in hearty sympathy. We appreciate the many admirable qualities of the Sikh nation, and it is a pleasure to us to know that while, in days gone by, we recognised in them a gallant and formidable foe, we are, to-day, able to give them a foremost place amongst the true and loyal subjects of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress. I rejoice that the Sikh leaders are now endeavouring by the foundation of this Institution to secure in these more settled times the intellectual progress of the Sikh people, and it will give me the greatest pleasure to comply with the request, which has been made to me that I would, at the proper time, give my patronage to the College.

It is not too much, therefore, to say that no circumstances are wanting to render the prospect with which your Highness commences your career as a Ruler, as bright and as promising as possible. Upon your Highness's own conduct, upon your ability to make use of the great opportunities which will be placed within your reach, upon your power to withstand the temptations which surround the path of a young Ruler, it will depend whether these bright promises are fulfilled or disappointed. I earnestly trust that your Highness may be given those great qualities without which wealth and power will be of no avail to you. Your Highness has made an admirable beginning. May you have perseverance to pursue, without turning to the right or to the left, the path which you have marked out for yourself. The mere initiation of useful measures, creditable though it may be, is a comparatively simple matter. It is only by sustained efforts, by continuous vigilance and application, that you can hope to establish your reputation as a Ruler and to leave a lasting mark upon the fortunes of your State. It is, indeed, not too much to say that, of all

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the qualities needed by one who, owing to the accident of his birth, finds himself called upon to preside over the destinies of a State, the quality of perseverance is the most necessary of all; for, Maharaja, your responsibilities the formal commencement of which dates from to-day, will end only with your life. In this respect your position differs widely from that of the high officials whose tenure of office, like that of His Honor or mine, is a temporary tenure. We can look forward to the time when our work will come to an end, and when we shall step on one side and see it continued by others. The burden which you are taking upon yourself to-day, can never be laid down so long as you are able to bear it. While, therefore, you have, on the one hand, the prospect, denied to some of us, of reaping the reward of your own exertions, you have the knowledge that from those exertions you must expect no relief. I wish you, therefore, above all else, strength and courage to continue your work, and endurance wherewith to complete it, and I trust that you may so make use of the powers entrusted to you to-day that, during your life and after it, you may be remembered by the Government of India, by your subjects, and by the great Sikh community, of which you are a distinguished member, as the wise, just, and honest Ruler of a prosperous and contented people.

[At the conclusion of His Excellency's speech, a translation of it was read out in Hindustani by Mr. Cuningham, the Officiating Foreign Secretary, who then recited the Maharaja's titles in full.

The Viceroy then addressing His Highness, said, "I hereby declare you, invested with full powers of administration in the State of Patiala."

The band then played the National Anthem and a salute of 17 guns was fired without the city walls.

The Viceroy's khilat was then brought in, and His Excellency presented the Maharaja with a sword of State which was girt on by Mr. Cuningham. His Highness was led to the central seat on the dais by the Viceroy, who seated himself on the right, the Lieutenant-Governor occupying the chair on the left.

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The Maharaja then rose and addressing the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor spoke as follows :—]

Your Excellency, Your Honor,—It is with feelings of the deepest gratitude and profound respect that I beg to express my heartfelt thanks to your Excellency and your Honor for the very great favour which the Imperial Government has this day, through your Excellency, conferred upon me and my State, by the confirmation of my ruling powers. The double honour which the visit of both your Excellency and your Honour, and the declaration which your Excellency has so graciously made in my own capital, have now conferred upon me and my people, is unparalleled in the annals of the State; and when I recall to mind the other important honours which were in this very hall, fourteen years ago, conferred upon me, and my State, by His Excellency Lord Lytton and Sir Henry Davies, I cannot express my pride and my pleasure. I was then only a child of four years, yet notwithstanding my age His Excellency, after the close of the memorable Imperial Assemblage, travelled straight from Delhi to Patiala for the sole purpose of installing me on the musnud of my forefathers. If I am not mistaken I believe I am the only Prince in India who has had the good fortune to receive such exceptional marks of Imperial favour, and whose installation on his hereditary Raja Guddee, and the confirmation of whose powers have both been honoured by the personal presence of two exalted representatives of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress. It is now only a year since your Excellency, on the recommendation of my kind friend, Sir James Lyall, invested me with ruling authority in my State. The confidence which the Imperial Government then reposed in me, and which is still more strengthened by your Excellency's kind expressions on the present occasion, I have, during this short period, as far as I possibly could, endeavoured to justify, and it has given me great consolation and encouragement to learn from your Excellency's speech that my labours have

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not failed to give satisfaction to your Excellency and your Honor. I beg to assure your Excellency that the well-being of my State and people shall always be the chief aim and the guiding principle of my rule, and that I shall ever be desirous of doing all that I can to secure their prosperity and happiness. Born to be the head of the renowned Phulkian House, with an inheritance of proverbial fidelity to the British Crown excelled by none of the Indian Princes, I am fully conscious of the grave responsibilities of my position, and of the great obligations which I owe to my own people and to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress. Your Excellency has graciously spoken of the humble services rendered by the rulers of this State, and I thank you for making mention of them. It is now 87 years since General Lake first gave my ancestor the Maharaja Sahib Singh the kind assurances of British friendship. The relations then begun were followed by the formal protection of the British Government being granted to the State a few years later, and it will ever be the pride of my family that during this long period the closest intimacy and most cordial understanding have invariably existed between us. The services rendered by the State in the Gurkha war of 1814, in the Kabul campaign of 1839, in the Sutlej war of 1845, in the Mooltan insurrection of 1848, in the dark troublous days of 1857, and in the Afghan war of 1878, will ever remain a standing proof of the loyalty and devotion of my house, and will go far to show how highly the Sikh chieftains of this principality have been capable of recognising the immense boons and blessings which the British rule has conferred upon this State and the country in general. The rewards and distinctions which the Imperial Government, as an acknowledgment of these services, has, from time to time, conferred on this house, are too well known to be related. They may be briefly stated to have taken the form of a handsome gift of territories with large revenues, of the increase of salutes, of the bestowal of the Most Exalted Order of

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the G. C. S. I. and other titles on my illustrious father and grandfather, of the Viceregal visits to Patiala, of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who was pleased to call my father his friend, and quite recently, for which I have to thank the Imperial Government, your Excellency and your Honor, in the shape of the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale to Patiala.

I pray that the Imperial Government may never stand in need of assistance from the Indian Princes, but should the occasion arise I beg to assure your Excellency that I should be found as faithful, as firm, and as staunch an ally of Her Imperial Majesty as my predecessors have been before me. have, as your Excellency is aware, already allotted a portion of my army for Imperial service. The regiments which your Excellency will graciously condescend to inspect to-morrow are greatly improving in discipline and efficiency. New cantonments, at a heavy cost, are under construction, and I take a deep and hearty interest in the welfare of these troops. I wish to take this opportunity of expressing to your Excellency the deep indebtedness of the State to the Government of India and Punjab Government, for the cordial assistance and moral support which have ever been most graciously and promptly extended to the rulers of Patiala, whenever asked for, in reforming and improving the internal administration of the State. Fully recognising the immense benefits of works of public utility, it has ever been their cherished ambition to follow the Government in this respect, and through the timely and gracious help given by the British authorities, without which they could have done little, the result of their labours has been that the State now possesses a canal which irrigates one lakh and fifty thousand acres of land, a telegraph service, colleges, hospitals, workshops, and a line of railway, running throughout the whole length of my dominions, from Rajpura to Bhatinda. I need not assure your Excellency that I am earnestly desirous of following

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the example of my illustrious predecessors in their public spirit and desire for improvement, and I hope it will not be considered improper if I here mention a few measures which I have adopted during the short period of my administration. I had the good fortune to open the Patiala Bhatinda Railway, which has been constructed on the broad gauge and is expected to become a most important commercial and strategical line, when extended *via* Bahawalpore so as to give direct communication with the seaport of Karachi. I have sanctioned an expenditure of over five lakhs of rupees in constructing a system of metalled roads, which will connect the principal towns in my State with the new line of railway, in order to serve as feeders. The Government have sanctioned my request for a share in the new Sirsa Canal project, and I have made arrangements for the payment of ₹11,00,000 as my proportional share. My forests in the Sawaliks and Himalayan ranges have occupied the attention of Government of late years, and the much-needed work of their regular settlement is now steadily progressing under an energetic English officer, whose services Government have been pleased to lend at my special request. I may also mention among the new works the Lady Dufferin Hospital, which your Excellency was graciously pleased to declare open yesterday. An experienced lady doctor with a European assistant has been employed to control the institution. The Educational Department is being formed, under the advice and suggestions offered by my late able and respected tutor, Mr. Sime, whom I am glad to welcome here on this occasion. A horse-breeding scheme is shortly to be taken in hand. Further arrangements have been made to light the city streets, while greater attention is now paid to matters of sanitation and public health. These are a few of the measures of public utility which have been introduced since I attained my majority. I make now mention of the mass of work of every description which I found in

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arrears and have now cleared off. Your Excellency has made kindly references to the active interest I have lately taken in the matter of the higher education of my Sikh co-religionists. I deem it an honour to be able to assist, in however small a degree, in the cause of education, and the step which your Excellency mentions was only a natural outcome of this sincere desire. As a Sikh I feel bound to thank your Excellency and your Honor for the interest you have taken in the movement.

Before concluding I desire to acknowledge the kind words your Excellency has spoken regarding the late Sirdar, Sir Dewa Singh, whose death I greatly deplore. He had the satisfaction of knowing that his duty was done before death removed him from among us.

It now only remains for me to again thank your Excellency and your Honor for the kind favours bestowed upon me to-day, and to express a hope that the gracious patronage which the Imperial Government has so long extended to my illustrious forefathers may ever be accorded to me and my State, and that I may always continue to enjoy the personal friendship of your Excellency and Sir James Lyall. I am sanguine that all my officials and my people join with me when I express the prayer that the British rule, which is the source of so many blessings to all India, may ever uninterruptedly continue, and that God Almighty may ever preserve the benign shadow of our beloved and kind-hearted Sovereign, Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, who is the fountain-head of all the boons and blessings which the Princes and people of India enjoy. (*Loud applause.*)

[His Highness spoke clearly and without the slightest sign of nervousness, laying particular emphasis on the passage referring to the loyalty of Patiala to the Imperial Crown.]

On the conclusion of his speech the Maharaja was congratulated by the Viceroy, the Lieutenant-Governor, the Foreign Secretary, and the Chief Secretary to the Punjab Government, on his accession to the musnud.

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The Maharaja's brother and the State officials, civil and military, then presented nazars, which were touched and remitted by the Viceroy. Attár and pán were distributed, and the durbar came to a close. The Viceroy left the palace under a salute of 31 guns.]

BANQUET AT PATIALA.

[On the evening of the day on which the installation of the Maharaja of Patiala by the Viceroy took place, His Highness entertained His Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor, and all the guests in the Camp at Patiala at a State dinner in the public guest tent. The Maharaja had a renewal of a recent attack of fever and was unable to be present after dinner as he had intended. The Viceroy proposed the health of His Highness in the following terms :—]

Your Honor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I rise for the purpose of proposing a toast, which I think we ought certainly to drink before we separate this evening. It is the health of His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala. (*Cheers.*) I had hoped that His Highness would have joined us after dinner, but I am sorry to say that I have just heard that a slight return of the fever, from which His Highness was suffering a few days ago, renders this impossible. The attack is not a serious one, but His Highness is perfectly justified in taking the usual precautions, and in avoiding exposure to the cold night air. I shall, if you will permit me, in proposing his health, mention briefly one or two matters of local importance, and I make no apology for doing so, for I think that all of us, whether we are connected with the State or not, take an interest in Patiala affairs upon the present occasion. (*Hear, hear.*)

His Highness, this morning, in the course of the admirable and well-delivered address to me, to which all of us listened with so much pleasure, referred to the fact that, during his minority, and under the wise guidance of the State Council, Patiala had obtained the inestimable boon of connection with the railway system of North-Western India. It will be remembered that, when the construction of the line between this place and Bhatinda was begun, the Govern-

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ment of India undertook that it would, at a suitable time, complete those communications either by an extension of the line from Bhatinda to Bhawalpore, or by placing Bhatinda in communication, on the broad gauge, with Ferozepore to the north. I am able to say that we are prepared to meet our obligation, and I believe that the best mode of giving effect to the promise will be found in laying a third rail between Bhatinda and Ferozepore—an arrangement which will place Patiala in direct communication, without break of gauge, with the great railway arteries which extend between Karachi and Peshawur. (*Cheers.*)

There is another matter in regard to which I wish to say a few words. I have noticed, since my arrival in the State, and upon other occasions, the fine appearance of the Patiala State Troops (*cheers*), which have, during the last two years, undergone training as part of what we generally speak of as the "Imperial Service Corps," and I am, thanks to his Highness's thoughtfulness, and to the consideration of his illustrious neighbours, the Rajas of Nabha and Jheend, to have, to-morrow, an opportunity of seeing the troops of the three States on parade. I am glad to say that I have received from Lieutenant Colonel Melliss, the officer specially entrusted with the inspection of the Native States' forces, the most satisfactory accounts of the spirit, discipline, and efficiency of these troops. Colonel Melliss, in the Report which he has just submitted to the Government of India, says that "the selected War Service regiments of the Punjab are composed of exceedingly fine men, full of martial spirit, well behaved, contented, and cheerful;" that the whole of these men are subjects of their own States, a point to which I attach the greatest importance, and "that they vie with one another to become smart and efficient;" and he adds that "the Chiefs and Rulers take the greatest possible interest in them." (*Cheers.*) The cavalry of the Punjab States was sufficiently trained to admit of its attending the Cavalry Camp at Muridki last

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year, where they took part in the march past and were noticed with approval by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. They were afterwards inspected by the Inspector-General of Cavalry, than whom there is no higher authority upon all questions connected with cavalry, and who on parade complimented them highly on their smart and soldier-like appearance and the satisfactory progress which they had made. (*Cheers.*) It is a noticeable fact that, on the march to and from the Muridki Camp, the little force conducted itself admirably, and in such a manner that I believe not a single complaint was made against it by the villagers of the country through which it passed. (*Cheers.*)

Now, ladies and gentlemen, it is particularly agreeable to me to refer to this subject in this place, because the great movement commenced by my predecessor, Lord Dufferin, with the object of assigning to these forces, and those of other loyal Indian States, a place in the defensive system of the Indian Empire, may be said to have had its public inception in Patiala. (*Cheers.*) Many of those who are listening to me will probably recollect Lord Dufferin's speech upon this subject, when, in 1888, upon the occasion of His Highness's marriage, my predecessor unfolded his scheme in the Durbar then held in His Highness's palace. It was upon that memorable occasion that the Viceroy for the first time announced his intention—I will use his own words—"of asking those Chiefs who have specially good fighting material in their armies to raise a portion of those armies to such a pitch of general efficiency as will make them fit to go into action side by side with the Imperial troops." Lord Dufferin's speech was followed by large offers from the principal Native States of all parts of India, and, although it was impossible to accept all of these, we have, I am glad to say, during the two years which have passed since the speech was delivered, made an excellent commencement. There are at present under training, in round numbers, 6,400 Cavalry, and about 7,000 Infantry, a body of men well dis-

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ciplined, thoroughly equipped, and, in point of military spirit and fighting qualities, fully fitted to take their place in the general system of Imperial Defence, and I feel no doubt that, as time goes on, we shall see our way to accepting wholly or in part some of the numerous other offers which are still open to us. (*Cheers.*) The case is, however, one in which I am anxious to proceed carefully and deliberately, making sure of each step which we take before attempting a further advance. (*Hear, hear.*) I have often heard it said that the numbers which I have just given you, although they represent a material addition to our resources, might easily have been exceeded, and that, with a little judicious pressure on our part, there would have been no difficulty in obtaining the adhesion of a number of States which have up to the present time taken no part in associating themselves with the movement. I must frankly say that this complaint is not one which causes me many misgivings, and I own that, if the Government of India is to be found fault with in connection with this subject, I would far sooner that we should be blamed for moving rather too slowly than rather too fast. (*Hear, hear.*) I have given my anxious consideration to this question, and I have come to the conclusion that we ought, on no account, to accept assistance of this kind from the Feudatory States, except in cases where there is the clearest possible evidence to show, first, that the Ruler of the State in question is honestly and sincerely desirous of placing his troops at our disposal, and esteems it an honour to have those troops brought into a line with those of the Imperial Government; secondly, that such service will not impose too heavy a burden on the State, and that there is to be found amongst its people a genuine and a loyal desire to accept such service; and, thirdly, that there exists in the troops themselves that military spirit so conspicuous in some of the races of India, and which has given to our Native Army some of the finest fighting material in the world. The essence of

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the whole scheme is that there should be no compulsion in the matter, and that only those States should be singled out which are not only willing, but anxious to bear their part with us in defending the Empire in the hour of need. (*Cheers.*)

I will add one word more of explanation. If these are the lines upon which we are to work, it is, in my belief, essential that we should, as far as possible, jealously preserve the individuality of the force which each State is permitted to contribute. We wish to make these State forces a matter of personal pride and emulation amongst the Ruling Chiefs, and, for this reason, I have persistently turned a deaf ear to all offers, however generous, which have been made to me of assistance in money in lieu of in men. (*Cheers.*) We are not seeking to levy an Imperial defence cess upon the Native States, and, for the same reason, I have discouraged several very well-meant proposals which have from time to time been put forward for the formation of composite corps made up of small contributions of men from a number of the minor States. If such contributions had been accepted, it would have been necessary to merge these small bodies of troops into one or more larger forces, which would not be representative of any particular State, but of a group or body of States. There would, under such an arrangement, have been no room for *esprit de corps* or the pride of each individual State in its own force. I hope therefore that you will agree with me in thinking that such offers, however creditable to those who made them, were inconsistent with the principles which I have just enunciated, and that I was right in declining them. (*Cheers.*)

The essential idea of the scheme is that we should select, with the utmost care, the States which are to be allowed to take a part in it, and that each of these States should provide a small force of its own, composed of its own subjects, and officered by its own gentry, identified as much as possible with its own interests, and, in time of peace,

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entirely under its own control. (*Cheers.*) Now it has been very satisfactory to me to find that amongst the first to give their adhesion to this great and important movement has been the State of Patiala. (*Cheers.*) As His Highness reminded us in his speech this morning, the comradeship of the British and Patiala forces is no new thing. It is now some 75 years since they first were companions in arms during the Nepal War. Later again, in the dark days of the Mutiny, good service, still fresh in our memories, was rendered by His Highness's grandfather, Maharaja Narendra Singh, and the Patiala contingent, and at a still more recent date, during the Afghan War, a Patiala force served with distinction with the British Army. I feel confident that the troops which we shall see to-morrow will, in case of need, prove themselves no unworthy inheritors of these honourable traditions. (*Cheers.*)

Ladies and Gentlemen, I must apologise for having detained you so long. It remains for me only, before I resume my seat, to ask you to join me in drinking the health of His Highness. I am sure that every lady and gentleman at this table will unite with me in cordially wishing him long life and happiness, and in hoping that he may be spared for many years to continue the useful work which he has already begun. (*Cheers.*) Of the friendship and support of the Government of India His Highness may rest assured, and I trust, that, not only while I remain in India, but long after I have left the country, I may have the pleasure of watching from a distance the career which has opened so auspiciously to-day; and of knowing that his public and private life are building up for him a reputation for wisdom, justice, and integrity; and strengthening the bond of good-will which has for so long united the State of Patiala to the British Empire.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I give you the health of His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala.

[The toast was very warmly received.]

PARADE OF IMPERIAL SERVICE TROOPS AT PATIALA.

[On the morning of the 24th October, the Viceroy witnessed a 24th Oct. 1890. parade of the Imperial Service Troops belonging to the Patiala, Jhind and Nabha States. The troops were drawn up on the plain at Kherika-Kublar, some three miles from the camp at Patiala. The Maharaja rode with the Viceroy, the Lieutenant-Governor and their respective Staffs to the parade-ground, where they were received by Colonel Melliss, the Chief Inspecting Officer of Imperial Service Troops in India, and the British officers employed under him in the Punjab, Captain Blythe, 10th Bengal Lancers, Captain Hogg, 14th Sikhs, and Lieutenant Harris, 11th Bengal Infantry. The strength of the troops paraded was as follows:—1st Patiala Lancers, 400; Jhind Lancers, 113; Nabha Lancers, 108; 1st Patiala Infantry, 824; 1st Jhind Infantry, 479; 1st Nabha Infantry, 492; total of all ranks, 2,416. The troops received the Viceroy in line, in open order, with a royal salute. His Excellency, accompanied by the Lieutenant Governor, the Maharaja, Colonel Melliss and their respective Staffs, and escorted by a troop of the 10th Bengal Lancers; then rode slowly along the line inspecting each regiment in turn. His Excellency subsequently took up his post at the saluting flag and the march past began, after which the troops formed line of quarter columns, advanced in review order, and gave a royal salute. The Viceroy then rode out and addressed Colonel Melliss in the following terms:—]

Colonel-Melliss,—Before I leave the ground I desire to express to you the great satisfaction which it has given me to see this fine body of troops on parade. The reports which you have recently submitted to the Government of India left me in no doubt that the forces of the three States had made excellent progress in the period during which they have been subject to your inspection, and that their efficiency, discipline and equipment were in the highest degree creditable. I am glad to have seen with my own eyes how much you, and the officers under you, have been able to achieve in this direction, in a comparatively short space of time, and I feel no doubt that, as you yourselves have acknowledged in the reports to which I refer, the large measure of success which has been obtained, would not, in

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the case of the Patiala troops, have been arrived at without the support of His Highness the Maharaja, who has taken so strong a personal interest in this important movement. I shall be much obliged if you will kindly cause my approval to be notified to the different regiments, in orders.

[Colonel Melliss in reply, said :—]

Your Excellency, Your Honor,—On behalf of the officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Imperial Service Corps of Patiala, Jhind and Nabha, I respectfully offer our grateful thanks for your Excellency's appreciation of the efficiency they have attained. They have yet much to learn and have only reached the half-way-house on the road to the goal we mean to gain. What has been achieved is chiefly due to the high military spirit and cheerful contentment of the men, to the earnest desire on the part of the officers and non-commissioned officers to learn their work, and to the ever ready and constant support, in all matters military, and the keen interest taken in their soldier subjects by the Maharaja of Patiala, the Raja of Nabha, and the Council of Regency in Jhind. Sir, I have been associated with these corps for now nearly two years and I feel sure that should the day ever come for united India to unsheath her sword in defence of the frontier, the Imperial Service Troops of the Punjab Chiefs will bring to themselves and their masters both fame and honour, and add a brilliant page to the history of Imperial India. Your Excellency's words of appreciation will be translated and read out at the head of every corps.

VISIT TO NABHA.

[Leaving Patiala on the afternoon of the 24th October, the Viceroy, 24th Oct. 1890. accompanied by the Lieutenant-Governor, proceeded to Nabha, where His Excellency and His Honor were received by the Raja and his officials and driven to an extensive and most artistically laid out camp, which had been pitched by His Highness some distance from the Railway Station. The evening was passed in the exchange of ceremonial visits and in seeing the various places of interest. At 8 P.M. the Raja of Nabha entertained the Viceroy, the Lieutenant-Governor and their respective Staffs at dinner in the Fort. After dinner the Raja entered and took his seat between the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor. His Excellency having proposed the health of the Queen-Empress, again rose and proposed His Highness's health as follows:—]

Your Honor and Gentlemen,—I rise to ask you to join me in drinking to the health of His Highness the Raja of Nabha. I wish, in the first place, to thank him, and I am sure you will allow me to do so in your name, as well as in my own, for the generous hospitality with which he has entertained us, although our visit was necessarily a very brief one. His Highness has made the most complete and thoughtful arrangements for our comfort, and, short as my stay in the State has been, I hope His Highness will regard it as a proof of the good-will and confidence of the Government of India. The Government of India regard His Highness as a staunch friend and ally who has well earned the distinguished Order of the Star of India which he wears upon his breast. The State of Nabha has, on more than one occasion, proved its loyalty to the Crown. At the time of the Mutiny, the then ruling chief co-operated with, and rendered good service to, us, and during the Afghan War Nabha was one of the seven States which sent contingents in aid of the British forces. More recently His Highness has placed a part of his forces under special training, in order to fit them to serve with the troops of the Queen-Empress in the event of a great Imperial emergency. This morning I had the pleasure of reviewing those troops on parade. I had already heard from Colonel Melliss, the officer specially

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entrusted with the inspection of the Imperial Service Corps, of the progress which they have made, of the martial spirit which they have displayed, and of the interest which His Highness takes in them. I am sure he would have been pleased had he seen their performance on the parade-ground this morning.

Let me, in conclusion, express to your Highness the pleasure which it has given me to become personally acquainted with you. Last year, much to my regret, you were prevented by ill-health from meeting me. This year you were kind enough to come to Simla to visit me, and you have now been able to receive me hospitably in your own capital. I assure you that I greatly value your friendship, and that I hope I may continue to enjoy it. Let us now drink to the health and prosperity of His Highness.

The toast having been warmly responded to, Mr. Fanshawe translated His Excellency's remarks for His Highness, when the latter rose and, in brief and well chosen words expressed the pleasure which it gave him to see His Excellency in his capital. Under the benign rule of Her Majesty, His Highness went on to say, he enjoyed an amount of liberty and security beyond his aspirations, and it was his constant and sincere desire to serve the British Government to the utmost of his ability. The British Government was a blessing to the Native States in general, and to the Phulkian States, to which group he belonged, in particular. He earnestly prayed for the health of Her Majesty and the Royal Family. His Highness concluded by expressing his gratitude to His Excellency for the kind terms in which he had proposed his health.

[The party then adjourned to the terrace and witnessed an excellent display of fireworks in the court-yard below. The city and the approaches to the station were brilliantly illuminated.]

The Viceroy's special train left at midnight, His Excellency being accompanied to the station by His Highness and the Lieutenant-Governor. Sir James Lyall took leave of the Viceroy here.]

VISIT TO ULWAR.

[The Viceroy arrived at Ulwar at 5 P.M. on the 25th October, and 25th Oct. 1890. was received at the Railway Station by the Maharaja, Colonel G. H. Trevor, Agent to the Governor-General for Rajputana, Colonel Muir, the Political Agent, and the Chief State Officials. A guard-of-honour from the Imperial State Troops was in attendance, and a salute was fired by the Maharaja's own battery of artillery. The Viceroy, accompanied by the Maharaja, drove to the Banni Bilas Palace, where His Excellency and party were accommodated during their stay. In the course of the evening, ceremonial visits were exchanged between His Excellency and His Highness, after which the Maharaja entertained the Viceroy and his party at dinner in the city Palace. At the conclusion of dinner the Maharaja entered and took his seat near the Viceroy. The first toast drunk was that of the Queen-Empress, in proposing which the Maharaja took the opportunity of saying that Her Majesty had no more loyal feudatory in her wide Empire than himself, and that the height of his ambition was to have an opportunity of showing his loyalty by leading in person his troops in the service of the Empire. He asked his guests to join him in wishing Her Most Gracious Majesty long life, health, and prosperity, and for the Royal Family every blessing and happiness.]

The terms in which the Maharaja proposed the Viceroy's health were :—]

I would express the great pleasure it is to me to be honoured by the presence in my State of Her Majesty's representative. My only regret is that His Excellency is not accompanied by Lady Lansdowne. My hope is that, on the next occasion, they will together be able to pay Ulwar a longer visit. I trust His Excellency will be pleased with all he sees in Ulwar, especially with the Imperial Service Troops. I ask you to drink the health of Lord and Lady Lansdowne, and may His Lordship's period of office be a successful one.

[His Excellency, in replying, spoke as follows :—]

Your Highness, Colonel Trevor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have to thank Your Highness for the kindly words in which you have welcomed me to the State of Ulwar

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and in which you have referred to my visit. I may be permitted to share your regret that it should have been impossible for Lady Lansdowne to accompany me. She had looked forward to a tour in Rajputana, and it was only because it was absolutely necessary for her to revisit England for a few months that she gave up her intention of accompanying me. For myself, Maharaja, let me say what pleasure it gives me to find myself your guest here. This is the second annual tour which I have taken since my arrival in India. I was anxious to devote the first to seeing something of those important defences, which had been created, or which were in progress for securing the British Empire from attack from without. I propose to devote the earlier part of my second tour to making myself acquainted with some of the most important of those Rajput States, which have played so conspicuous a part in the history of this country, and which we are justified in regarding as not only one of the most interesting, but one of the most loyal sections of British India. (*Hear, hear and applause.*)

I am glad to be able to tender to your Highness within your own capital my assurance not only of my personal regard for you, but of the good-will and approbation of the Government of India. (*Hear, hear.*) Your Highness has shown yourself a capable and painstaking ruler, and the condition of your State shows that its affairs have been carefully administered. (*Applause.*) Your Highness has, I am glad to learn, evinced considerable interest in the education of your subjects, an interest which we have a right to expect from one who was, I believe, the first student admitted at the Mayo College at Ajmere, which I hope to visit within the next few days. (*Hear, hear.*) You have been liberal in your support of hospitals, and more especially in your encouragement of the movement initiated by Lady Dufferin and connected with her name. (*Applause.*) You are in the habit of freely visiting different portions of

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your State and of personally satisfying yourself with regard to the wants and condition of the cultivators. (*Hear, hear.*) Nor must I forget to mention the efforts which your Highness has made to place a portion of your forces in a high state of military discipline and efficiency, so as to render them fit to serve in the field with our armies in the event of a national emergency. (*Hear, hear, and applause.*) Some of these troops I have already had an opportunity of seeing for a few moments, and I look forward to inspecting the whole of them on parade before I leave Ulwar. To the success of this important movement two conditions are indispensable, on the one hand a martial spirit, and good fighting qualities amongst the troops themselves,—characteristics which are certainly not absent in the case of your subjects—and, on the other, the close interest and personal support of the Chief himself. (*Hear, hear.*) The latter condition has, I am glad to say, been complied with in a most conspicuous manner in your Highness's case. (*Applause.*)

I believe I am right in saying that your Highness was the first Indian Prince to place your troops under special discipline for Imperial Service, and that, even before the publication of the scheme announced by Lord Dufferin, two years ago, you had a carefully selected body of troops in training under the supervision of a British Officer with the object of placing them at the disposal of Her Majesty's Government. (*Applause.*) The State of Ulwar may therefore fairly claim to have been first in the field. Your Highness has yourself the honour of holding a Colonel's Commission in the British Army, and I hope, before I leave Ulwar, to see you taking command of your own troops. (*Applause.*) That your Highness wishes these soldierlike instincts to be perpetuated amongst the Rulers of Ulwar is, I think, proved by the fact that your son, who is only 10 years of age, already has a Resaldar's Commission in the Cadet Corps and will be in his place on parade next Monday. (*Applause.*)

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I have heard with much pleasure of your thoughtfulness, not only for the efficiency of your regiment, but also for the comfort and well-being of the men. I learn that you are in the habit of yourself inspecting the recruits before allowing them to be admitted, and Colonel Melliss informs me that the result of your care and thoroughness has been that a sense of the utmost contentment prevails throughout the entire force. (*Applause.*) Your liberal expenditure of no less than six lakhs in providing them with suitable barracks will, I have no doubt, go far in securing this object. (*Applause.*)

I now, Gentlemen, beg to propose to you the health of His Highness the Maharaja, and, in doing so, I am sure I am only expressing the hope of all present that the serious illness from which His Highness was suffering a short time ago has entirely passed away, and that he has returned from his visit to the Australian possessions of Her Majesty, a visit which I hope has not only thoroughly restored him to health but given him an opportunity of seeing something of that great British Empire, of which I am sure he is proud that the State of Ulwar forms part and parcel. (*Loud and continued applause.*) Ladies and Gentlemen, I now give you the health of His Highness, and I hope that he may be spared for many years to continue the useful works which he has in hand.

[The toast was very warmly received, the Maharaja acknowledging it in a few cordial words. The Viceroy then rose with the other guests to inspect the collection of rare arms, books, manuscripts and curiosities which were laid out in an adjoining room. Afterwards the party ascended to the roof of the palace to witness the illuminations of the city and a display of fireworks.]

At Ulwar His Excellency's party was joined by Colonel G. H. Trevor, Agent to the Governor-General for Rajputana, Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. L. Marshall, Secretary to the Agent, Governor-General for Rajputana and Central India, Public Works Department, and Lieutenant K. D. Erskine, First Assistant to the Agent, Governor-General for Rajputana.]

INSPECTION OF IMPERIAL SERVICE TROOPS AT ULWAR.

[On Monday morning, the 27th October, the Viceroy inspected the 27th Oct. 1890.
Imperial Service Troops of Ulwar. Lord Lansdowne, accompanied by Colonel Trevor, Colonel Muir, His Excellency's personal staff, and the Maharaja's son, a Resaldar of Cavalry, aged 10 years, rode to the parade-ground where he was received by the Maharaja, who commanded the troops in person. These consisted of four squadrons of Lancers (492) and 820 Infantry. At the close of the inspection the Viceroy addressing His Highness said :—]

Maharaja,—Before I leave the ground I wish to express the pleasure it has given me to see the Ulwar Imperial Service Troops on parade, and I desire to compliment you upon their admirable steadiness, and upon the precision with which they have gone through the movements I have just witnessed.

I should also like to tell you how much I have been struck by the workmanlike character of the equipment of the men, an equipment which has obviously been contrived with the idea of fitting them not only for the requirements of the parade-ground but for those of active service in the field.

I have also been much pleased by the appearance of the horses and by the excellent manner in which they are turned out and groomed. If you will be kind enough, Maharaja, to cause it to be stated in orders that I was much satisfied with all I saw this morning, I shall be extremely obliged to you.

Let me say, in conclusion, that I am sure that the troops present to-day must have felt great pride in being handled upon the parade-ground by your Highness.

ADDRESS FROM THE AJMERE MUNICIPALITY.

1890. [The Viceroy, accompanied by Colonel G. H. Trevor, arrived at Ajmere at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 28th October. On the platform were the Chiefs of Bundi, Bikanir, Kotah, Kishengarh, Tonk, and Tehri, with a number of Istumrardars, or petty chiefs in British territory. The Viceroy, who was received by Colonel Biddulph, Commissioner of Ajmere, first inspected the Volunteer guard-of-honour, after which the Chiefs were presented to His Excellency. The members of the Ajmere Municipality were assembled in an adjacent hall, and here an address of welcome was presented to His Excellency by the Chairman, Colonel Loch. Its general tenor may be judged from the points to which the Viceroy referred in his reply, which was as follows :—]

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Ajmere Municipal Council,—I return you my cordial thanks for the manner in which you have welcomed me to the ancient capital of Rajputana, and I take note, with satisfaction, of the expression of loyalty to the British Rule, and of attachment to the Person and Throne of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress which you have placed in the forefront of your address.

I am glad to find that you prize, as it deserves to be prized, the privilege of Local Self-Government conferred upon your city six years ago, and that the Municipality has, during the years which have since elapsed, been able to effect substantial improvements conducive to the comfort and well-being of the people whose interests are committed to your charge. You are justified in assigning a conspicuous place amongst the most important of such improvements to measures affecting the health of the community, and of these none is more important than that of providing it with a supply of pure water. All recent investigations tend to show that the possession of such a supply is a condition to the absence of which are due most of those epidemic diseases which have from time to time occasioned such terrible ravages in different parts of the country.

Address from the Ajmere Municipality.

I trust that I may interpret your reference to the subject of Local Self-Government as indicating your consciousness that the privilege—and you are correct in speaking of it as a privilege—is one which confers upon those who enjoy it, not only extensive rights, but far-reaching obligations. The Government of India has watched, and will continue to watch, with the closest interest, the manner in which those obligations are discharged in the different centres of population in which this great experiment is receiving a trial. That Government is ready to encourage this and other Municipalities in their struggle with the difficulties which confront them, by granting them all the assistance which they can legitimately expect. Such encouragement can, however, only be afforded to those who show themselves worthy of it, and I may be allowed to express my hope that in Ajmere, where much wealth has undoubtedly accumulated under the protection, and indirectly through the agency of the British Government, in a manner peculiar to a large city surrounded by, and having dealings with, Native States, your leading and wealthiest citizens will show, by the active interest which they take in the affairs of the Municipality, and by their liberal support of all schemes of public utility, that they are alive to their responsibilities in this matter.

I am given to understand that the sanitary arrangements of your town and neighbourhood still require your closest and most sustained attention, and I am not without hope that you may yet be able to secure for yourselves an even more satisfactory solution of the difficulties connected with your water supply, than that which has been provided in your present scheme for pumping water from the Ana Sagar Lake. The young Municipalities of India have a right to insist that too much should not be expected from them at the outset of their career. I am sure, however, that you will believe that I am only giving you the advice of a true friend to Municipal Government, when I express

Address from the Ajmere Municipality.

my hope that each and every one of the Municipal Commissioners of Ajmere will take a personal and practical interest in maintaining the efficiency of those municipal institutions, and in securing the observance of those municipal laws, of which he is a constituted guardian. You are fortunate in having the assistance of officers belonging to the staff of the Railway who may be trusted to contribute their intelligence and energy to the work which devolves upon you. There are, moreover, many capable officers of the Government, both European and Indian, upon whose assistance you can count, and you have been exceptionally fortunate in obtaining the guidance of a Chairman—the Revd. Dr. Husband—to whose signal services in this respect my attention was, I remember, drawn by Colonel Walter soon after my arrival in India. Dr. Husband has, I understand, been replaced during his absence on leave by Colonel Loch, who will no doubt prove a most efficient substitute. With such materials as these you should have no difficulty in achieving in future a large measure of success, and in making the Ajmere Municipality a model for other local Governments. I trust that you will accomplish this result; that you will not be content to allow the whole weight of the burden to rest upon willing shoulders like those of your late and present Chairman; and that in your deliberations in Council and in Committee you will show yourself wise and business-like, and averse to the waste of public time in mere empty discussion.

Be assured, Gentlemen, of my cordial sympathy with you, and of my earnest hope that your important duties may be discharged in such a manner as to earn for you the gratitude of the people of this State and the thanks of the Government.

I have only to add the expression of my regret that it should have been impossible for Lady Lansdowne, to whom you have gracefully referred, to accompany me during this portion of my tour. I trust that she may have another

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College.

opportunity of visiting Rajputana and your interesting and important city.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE MAYO COLLEGE.

[On the evening of the 30th October, a large number of the Euro- 30th Oct 1890.
pean and Native residents of Ajmere assembled in the principal hall of the Mayo College to witness the distribution of the prizes to the students by the Viceroy. The College is entirely devoted to the education and training of the young Rajput Chiefs and Sardars who reside in it.

Colonel Loch, Principal of the College, received His Excellency and Colonel Trevor, and then read an address, giving an account of the work done by the institution during the past year. Attention was drawn to the fact that fifteen prizes were given for proficiency in games, and the hope was expressed that the Viceroy would regard with favour the number of rewards allotted for riding and athletics. The interest of the Rajputana Chiefs in the College was proved by their gift of 22 prizes annually. The Viceroy's prize had been won by Kanwat Dalpat Singh of Manadar Sirohi, and Lady Lansdowne's, by Maharaja Jai Singh of Bamolia, Kotah. His Highness the Maharao Umaid Singh of Kotah was selected by the votes of the students for the good-conduct prize medal. Colonel Loch added: "It is of course impossible that the work of such an institution as this can proceed without having many difficulties to contend against, or that uniformly faultless results can be achieved. But the presence of the Viceroy, the Agent to the Governor-General, and several members of the College council, should convince all present that the management are endeavouring to carry out, to the best of their ability, the wishes of the distinguished and lamented Statesman whose name the College bears.

The Viceroy then rose and spoke as follows :—]

Colonel Trevor, Your Highnesses, Students of the Mayo College, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It has given me great pleasure to be present on this occasion and to listen to the President's account of the condition and prospects of the College. No educational institution in India is, in my eyes, more interesting or remarkable than this. It is an attempt to engraft upon the old aristocratic society of Rajputana, a form of education adapted to the require

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College.

ments of that society but to a large extent derived from, and inspired by, that of which we Englishmen are so justly proud—I mean the kind of education which the flower of our English youth receives at the great public schools. This experiment at once bears witness to the discernment of the British Statesman, whose name will, I hope, always remain connected with this College, and to the munificent liberality of the great Rajput Houses, to whose generous contributions the College owes these splendid buildings, and the endowment upon which it depends.

.. The College has now been 15 years in existence, and I hope we may regard its success as fully assured. Some 200 young Chiefs and members of the best families in Rajputana have received, or are receiving, here a training both of body and mind which will, I have no doubt, stand them in good stead, and which will enable them to discharge, with credit to themselves and to their race, the duties which they will have to perform when they arrive at full age.

What is most wanting to ensure the future success of the College is that the leading Chiefs and Rulers of Rajputana should give it their cordial support. They can do so in many ways. They have already done so by the exercise of a liberality which rendered it possible to incur an expenditure of nearly four lakhs upon these buildings, and over eight lakhs upon the endowment fund. I confess, however, that what would be even more satisfactory to me than this, would be to find a general disposition on the part of the whole of the ruling families of Rajputana to send their sons here.

As members of one of the oldest aristocracies in India, I can well understand that the Chiefs and Nobles of Rajputana should be animated by what we should call a strong conservative feeling, and that you should regard with suspicion any form of education which might have the effect of breaking down traditions or customs to which you

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are attached. There is, however, nothing in the education which your sons will receive here which need do violence to such a feeling. That education need not tend to weaken your loyalty to your own race, or your reverence for the long line of brave men from whom you are descended. Depend upon it, gentlemen, that a Rajput Noble will not find his usefulness as a Thakur impaired, because he has acquired here some of the qualities which we endeavour to instil into a young English gentleman of good family. It is an education for which we claim that it will, in the first place, engender amongst these young men that healthy spirit of emulation, that love of fair-play, and that ability to control their temper, which are produced by the healthy life of a public school, but which are rarely the result of the education given to a boy in his own home. In the next place, it is an education which will encourage the youths of Rajputana to acquire proficiency in manly sports and out-of-door exercises, and which will give them, not only sound minds, but sound and vigorous bodies, and develop those manly qualities, for the possession of which the Rajput race is proverbial.

But, Ladies and Gentlemen, while the education given to the students of the Mayo College is designed to achieve the results to which I have just briefly referred, we must not forget that it is also intended to enable the students to obtain a knowledge, not only of your own literature, but of the English language, and of some of those subjects which are regarded as essential in a Western education. I attach the greatest importance to this point because, unless the Rulers and Nobles in this part of India are prepared to obtain for their sons a certain amount of this kind of education, the rising generation of Rajputana will infallibly find themselves unable to take the place to which they are entitled amongst the communities of modern India. Without some knowledge of these subjects they will, in the first place, be unable to understand the official language of the

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country, to read our books and newspapers, or to appreciate our policy or our motives. They will find that all these things are unintelligible to them, and that it will be out of their power to afford us that useful co-operation which we have a right to expect at their hands, and which they are, I am sure, ready to supply. I should be sorry indeed if, by neglect in these respects, the Rajput aristocracy were to allow itself to fall behind and to be outstripped by others. In times gone by the different races by which this country is inhabited were engaged in an unceasing struggle for existence—a struggle in which the fittest owed their survival to their pre-eminence in those qualities which enabled them to hold their own upon the battle-field. In these days of assured peace which all of us enjoy under the Empire of Her Majesty that struggle is no longer carried on; and, although I am far from saying that the day has passed when either the British Government, or the people of India, can afford to be indifferent to the cultivation of those martial qualities for which the Rajput race has always been conspicuous, we cannot conceal from ourselves that such qualities alone do not suffice to make a people prosperous, or powerful, or to enable any section of the community to hold a foremost place in the public estimation. I trust that the Rajput race will not be content to rest its reputation upon those splendid qualities of courage, endurance, and gallantry in the field, which it displayed in the historical times to which I have referred, and that it will seek in future years to maintain, and add to, that reputation by taking the place to which it is entitled amongst the cultivated and enlightened communities of modern India.

I am glad to see before me a number of gentlemen, whom, if this were an English institution, we should describe as the "old boys" of the Mayo College. I have been at different times connected with the management of several of our best known English educational institutions, and I

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have always been struck by the interest shown in them by those who had been educated within their walls. A sort of freemasonry grows up amongst the old pupils of a great school—a freemasonry which, with us, often lasts through life, and which, I believe, has frequently been the means of stimulating young Englishmen to an active and useful career, in the hope that, by following such a career, they may reflect credit, not only upon themselves, but upon the institution in which they were brought up. Perhaps I may be allowed to mention to you, in this connection, that during the past summer a little party of old Eton boys met together on the anniversary day of that famous school, at which I had the good fortune to receive my education—a little party which included the Commander-in-Chief—Sir Frederick Roberts—the Lieutenant-Governor and one or two high officials of the Punjab, and the Viceroy of India; together with several members of his Staff; and I will venture to say that although a good many years have passed since the senior members of that little gathering had been at the old school, their feelings of affection for it were every whit as strong as upon the day when they left it. (*Applause.*) I trust that a feeling of this kind will come into existence amongst the historical families of Rajputana, and that we shall find the Chiefs and Nobles, who have received their education at the Mayo College, anxious to show by their conduct that they have not forgotten the lessons learnt there when they were lads. (*Continued applause.*)

I desire in conclusion, Mr. Principal, to express to you my acknowledgment of the excellent services which you have been able to render to the College, in the affairs of which you have taken so deep an interest. (*Applause.*) It has, I assure you, given me the greatest pleasure to accept your invitation and to meet so large a number of the friends and students of the College. (*Applause.*)

I will now, Mr. Principal, with your permission proceed

Unveiling Sir E. Bradford's Portrait.

to distribute the prizes. The list is a long one, but it is not too long when we consider, upon the one hand, that no less than 22 of the Rajputana Chiefs have been good enough to offer special rewards to the students; and, upon the other, that those rewards are intended to recognise, not only proficiency in studies, but also pre-eminence in good-conduct, and excellence in out-of-door exercises and games. It gives me much pleasure to observe amongst the names of the prize winners those of several of the leading chiefs, notably the Maharao of Kotah, (*applause*), and I noticed with satisfaction the terms of high commendation in which you spoke of the conduct of Kunwar Dalpat Singh, of Manadar Sirohi, who is ending a long and most honourable career at the College, and of Maharaja Jai Singh of Bamolia, Kotah, a young prince of very high character, who has been successful in arriving at distinction not only as a student of the Hindi language, but also for his exemplary conduct, and perhaps I may add, for his attainments as a fieldsman at cricket. (*Applause*.) We shall watch the career of these young men, and I beg to be permitted to offer them my sincere congratulations and good wishes. (*Loud and continued applause.*)

[The Viceroy then proceeded to distribute the prizes, after which Colonel Trevor rose to request His Excellency to unveil a portrait of Sir Edward Bradford which hung in the hall. In doing so he spoke as follows:—]

Your Excellency,—On behalf of many friends and admirers of Sir Edward Bradford, European and Native, I have to request Your Excellency to be kind enough to unveil the portrait of him which is to remain in the hall of this College to mark his long connection with Rajputana as the Agent to the Governor-General and Chief Commissioner of Ajmere and Merwara.

It may seem a little strange to some of those who subscribed towards this memorial that, although it is now nearly four years since Sir Edward Bradford left Rajputana, his

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portrait has not yet been made public. The explanation of this is that Art is long, and eminent artists require many sittings; also, that when a portrait is painted in England it has usually to be exhibited in the Royal Academy; and so it has come to pass that, only last February, this portrait was received in India, just in time to miss Sir Edward Bradford, after he had passed through Rajputana with Prince Albert Victor. This seemed at the time a piece of very bad luck, but when we heard that Your Excellency proposed to visit Rajputana we felt that good fortune was in store for us, especially when you kindly consented upon this public occasion to unveil this portrait.

To the many here present who knew Sir Edward Bradford, it is unnecessary for me now to speak of the various qualities which made him an object of admiration to most of us, including the boys of this College, and to all the Chiefs of Rajputana, a real friend. I will simply ask Your Excellency without prolonging these remarks to unveil his portrait and declare it open to the public view. (*Loud and continued applause.*)

[His Excellency then rose and spoke as follows :—]

Colonel Trevor, Your Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is my agreeable duty to unveil the portrait of Sir Edward Bradford which hangs upon the walls of this room. Sir Edward Bradford is so well known to many of those whom I have the honour of addressing, so much better known probably than he is to me, that I feel that any testimony which I might bear to his character and public services in this country may fall somewhat flatly upon your ears. His career in India was a long and eventful one. He came out in 1854 at the early age of 18. In 1856 we find him proceeding to Persia under General Jacob and receiving the Persian War medal for that campaign. Shortly after his return to India he was appointed to Mayne's Horse and obtained the command of that regiment in 1859.

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and afterwards that of the Central India Horse. It was while serving with these regiments that he obtained political employment, first as Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General for Western Malwa, and afterwards as Political Agent at Goona. During the mutiny he had his share of service in the field, and was twice mentioned in despatches besides receiving the Indian mutiny Medal.

But it is above all in connection with Rajputana that Sir Edward Bradford's name will always be associated. His service in Rajputana commenced in 1870 when he became Political Agent at Jaipur, and although he was afterwards employed from time to time in other parts of India, and held for four years the important appointment of Superintendent of the Thuggee and Dacoity Department, he seems to have, so to speak, gravitated back to Rajputana, and for the last ten years of his Indian career he served almost continuously as Agent to the Governor-General, and Chief Commissioner for the districts of Ajmere and Merwara.

His successful administration of that important trust is known to you all, and I am not surprised that his many friends should have desired to supplement those honours and distinctions, which he has received from his Sovereign, by the presentation of this portrait (the work of one of our best known Royal Academicians) to the Mayo College. No more fitting home for Sir Edward Bradford's portrait could be found than the head-quarters of the district in which for so many years he played a conspicuous part, and in which he is held in such affectionate remembrance—an affection to which, witness has been borne by the manner in which the Chiefs of Rajputana, as well as his private friends, have come forward as subscribers to the fund out of which this picture was paid for.

Amongst his European colleagues and subordinates, as well as amongst the Indian subjects of Her Majesty with whom he was brought into contact, whether in private or official life, he has left behind him one of the brightest

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reputations ever earned by an Indian official. I should say that, of the many admirable qualities for which he was distinguished, none were more remarkable than those qualities of tact, gentleness, and consideration for others, which I believe go further towards ensuring the success of those placed in responsible positions than many more brilliant attainments of intellect or knowledge. The students of this College could scarcely set before themselves a fairer ideal of that which a gentleman, whether English or Rajput, should desire to be. (*Loud and continued applause.*)

I have no doubt it was a subject of rejoicing to his many Indian friends that, when he turned his back upon India, he should have found employment under the Secretary of State, in a high and responsible position at the India Office, and that they did not fail to take note of the compliment which was paid to him, when last winter he was specially selected to accompany Prince Albert Victor of Wales on the occasion of his visit to this country. (*Applause.*) He would have been glad to continue in the discharge of those congenial duties, but his many exceptional qualities of head and heart attracted to him the attention of a public larger than that which is interested merely in Indian affairs; and at a time of great anxiety in the history of the Metropolitan Police Force he found himself, I believe most reluctantly, called upon to sever his connection with the India Office and to undertake the arduous duties of Chief Commissioner of Police. In that most difficult position, his firmness of character, coupled with rare powers of conciliating all with whom he was brought into contact, have already stood him in good stead, and those of us who know him, will have little doubt that he will be not less successful in Scotland Yard than he was in Rajputana. (*Applause.*)

There is one word more which I am anxious to say with regard to Sir Edward Bradford, and that is to express my deep sympathy, and I may say that of all who are listening to me, with him in the overwhelming loss which he

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has sustained through the recent death of his son, a youth conspicuous for the simplicity and straight-forwardness of his character and for the blamelessness of his life. To that promising young civilian, beloved and respected as he was by all who knew him, we can accord no higher praise than to say that in many respects he bade fair to resemble his distinguished father.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the ceremony of unveiling the portrait of a distinguished man is too often performed when the subject of the picture is no longer with us, and we have to be content to look back at the services which he has rendered to his country, or at the affection or respect entertained for him by his friends, while he was yet amongst them. In this case Sir Edward Bradford has fortunately still the prospect of a long and useful career, and I am sure that all of those who are listening to me will join me in hoping that, in spite of the great calamity, which has lately thrown a dark shadow over his life, he will be given strength and courage to serve his country for many years, and to build for himself in England a reputation as solid and as brilliant as that which he gained in Rajputana (*Loud and continued applause.*)

[The Portrait was then unveiled].

OPENING THE VICTORIA HALL AT OODEYPORE.

[On the night of the 30th October, the Viceroy left Ajmere and 1st Nov: 1890. arrived at Chitor early on the following morning. Here the Vice-regal party was received by a representative of the Maharana of Oodeypore, who had pitched a small camp near the Railway Station for their accommodation. His Excellency spent two hours before breakfast in visiting the Fortress of Chitor, after which the Party started in carriages for Oodeypore, a distance of 70 miles, which was reached at 5 in the afternoon. The Maharana, with his principal officials, was in waiting a short distance outside the city to receive the Viceroy, whom he accompanied to the Shimbu Newas Palace, where His Excellency remained during his stay. The morning of the 1st November was occupied in the exchange of ceremonial visits between the Viceroy, and the Maharana, after which His Excellency, accompanied by His Highness and Colonel Trevor, visited the Walter Hospital for women, and then drove to the Victoria Hall, where the following address was read on behalf of the Maharana by one of the Court officials:—]

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I esteem it a great pleasure that Your Excellency has visited Oodeypore, and I am specially grateful to you for your presence on this auspicious occasion to open an institution which has been erected to commemorate the completion of the fiftieth year of Her Majesty's illustrious reign.

Before requesting Your Excellency to perform this pleasing duty, I think it proper to give you a brief account of the building to be just opened by you.

To commemorate the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress by a permanent memorial it was proposed here in February 1887 (when this celebration took place in India) that a building be erected in the State gardens which should contain a library, a reading-room, and a museum for the indigenous products of Meywar, and that a full length statue of Her Majesty be placed in front.

Accordingly I laid the foundation stone of this building, the Victoria Hall, on the 20th June 1887, and the commission for the statue was entrusted to Mr. C. B. Birch, A.R. A. of London, who has been most successful in carrying

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out the work. The statue, which arrived here in the beginning of this year, I am glad to say, was unveiled by His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor during the course of his visit in February last.

The building which was designed by Mr. Campbell Thomson, M.I.C.E., is now finished, and I am very much delighted to know that the work is to be consummated by Your Excellency, the representative of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress of India.

This institution will always keep fresh and bright in our minds the Jubilee of Her Majesty's reign which has encompassed and endowed the land with universal peace and prosperity, has brought justice to every door, has converted millions of barren acres into well-watered plains, which has sensibly diminished the risks of both famine and pestilence, and has lit a hundred lamps of learning in the centre of every populous district, and placed within the reach of the humblest Indian student the accumulated wealth of Western learning, science, and experience.

May Her Majesty live for many long years to come, and may her rule continue to shower the everlasting benefits of civilization over her vast dominions.

The new building which you have so graciously consented to open to-day will be long and honourably associated with your illustrious name, and will awaken ever after pleasant memories of Your Excellency's visit to Oodeypore.

I now request Your Excellency to declare the Victoria Hall open.

[His Excellency replied as follows :—]

His Highness the Maharana has asked me to open this Hall which will, in years to come, be called after Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress. It has been erected by His Highness for the purpose of permanently commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the Throne. The celebration of that great event

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occasioned throughout her wide dominions an unprecedented outburst of loyalty, which found expression in every quarter of the globe.

Nowhere was that exhibition of loyalty more conspicuous than in India, where the Chiefs and Rulers of the different States vied with one another in celebrating the fiftieth year of the reign of a sovereign whose rule has been fraught with blessings to all portions of the Empire, and not least to India, the moral and material progress of which has, as His Highness has well observed, during the last 50 years, been unprecedented. I am glad to say that, in the large majority of cases, these memorials have taken the shape of works of public utility, and this is certainly the case with regard to the building which His Highness has caused to be erected in Oodeypore. It is a building not only beautiful in itself, but designed for a useful purpose. A part of it will be used as a reading-room and library and another part of it as a museum in which will be exhibited the indigenous products of Meywar. In front of it, and in order to place upon record the occasion upon which it was built, stands the handsome statue of the Queen-Empress which I have just had the pleasure of seeing. The statue is the work of a celebrated British sculptor and it was very appropriately unveiled last winter by the Queen's grandson, Prince Albert Victor of Wales.

I trust that the Victoria Hall will be largely used by the subjects of His Highness, and that it will serve to keep alive in their breasts the same feelings of loyalty to the British Crown which moved His Highness to undertake the work, and to which he has so aptly given utterance in the speech which he has just delivered. I have now much pleasure in declaring the Victoria Hall to be open.

[The Viceroy's remarks having been translated into the vernacular for His Highness and the State officials, an ode of welcome addressed to His Excellency in Hindi was read by the "Poet Laureate, historian and member of the State Council," Oodeypore, after which the assembly proceeded to view the statue of Her Majesty erected in front of the building.]

BANQUET AT OODEYPORE.

[The afternoon of the 3rd November was spent by the Viceroy and the Maharana of Oodeypore in inspecting the Meywar Bhil Corps. His Excellency expressed to Colonel MacRae, the Commanding Officer, his pleasure and satisfaction at the manner in which the corps went through the various exercises, requesting that his remarks might be published in orders. In the evening the Viceroy and party returned to the Shimbu Newas Palace by boats and witnessed the illuminations on the lake. The scene was a most beautiful one, the temples, ghâts, and water palaces being lit up, and a marvellously brilliant effect produced. His Highness afterwards entertained the Viceroy and his party at a banquet in the palace and entered and took his seat by His Excellency at the conclusion of dinner.]

After the Viceroy had proposed the health of the Queen-Empress, the Private Secretary of the Maharana, on behalf of His Highness, proposed the Viceroy's health in Urdu, the speech being translated by Mr. Erskine as follows :—]

I rise most sincerely to express the pleasure I have received in seeing Your Excellency. Since Your Excellency's arrival in India I have been looking forward for an opportunity of meeting. Your Excellency, having heard the praises of your high qualities from the newspapers, and books on renowned men of the times. Nothing can be more gratifying than to have the occasion of welcoming Your Excellency to the capital of my State, and thus to see the object so long desired so happily accomplished. The pleasure my eyes have derived from this joyous meeting is beyond my power of expression, for the vocal faculty is denied to the eyes, and the ocular to the tongue. This visit of Your Excellency reminds me of the time when, in 1818 A. D., the pleasing waves of the ocean of the Marquis of Hastings' civilising influence, washing out the troublesome thorns of enmity, brought to blossom the lotuses of my ancestors' hearts. This is a truth, patent to one and to all, that the British Government, whose representatives have out of love visited my State from time to time, and fulfilled the cherished objects of our hearts,

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has not only preserved the ancient glory of my house intact, but also has kindly done much to increase it. I assure you that we, myself and my subjects, bear a grateful sense of the benefit done in the interest of Meywar—a feeling of thankfulness which we shall not forget to the last moment of our lives. I have a request to make which I hope will be accepted by Your Excellency. In commemoration of Your Excellency's kind visit to this State a new hospital is intended to be built, which will prove of lasting benefit to my people, and be a source of health and happiness to them. The Sujan Hospital being not well suited, a new building will be erected in its stead, and will be called after Your Excellency's name. The only thing I regret is the absence of the Marchioness of Lansdowne. I should be highly thankful if I could see you and Her Excellency together gracing my capital with your presence, at some other time. I earnestly pray to God that the remaining period of Your Excellency's rule in India may be brought to a happy and prosperous termination. May the subjects of Her Majesty the Empress of India remember long the good deeds of Your Excellency. Ladies and Gentlemen, I shall not take up more of your time, but sit down asking you to drink with all enthusiasm the health of my dear friend and honoured guest the Marquis of Lansdowne, Viceroy and Governor General of India. (*Applause.*)

[The Viceroy in replying spoke as follows :—]

I tender to His Highness my hearty thanks for the kind terms in which he has proposed my health. It has given me the greatest pleasure to become personally known to him and to be assured of his friendship.

His Highness is the Chief of a State which has always been regarded as holding a foremost position among the Rajput States of India, and is the representative of a family which is justly proud of its descent, which has shown itself tenacious of its dignity, and which looks back with pride

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to traditions conspicuous even amidst the long records of chivalry which have made Rajputana famous. (*Applause.*)

Since His Highness's election to the gadi, six years ago, he has borne a high character as a Ruler, and has proved himself to be possessed of many qualities which deserve our sincere admiration. (*Applause.*) Amongst these I am glad to mention more especially the generosity which he has shown to all useful public institutions, of which, whether within the limits of his State or without them, he has been a most liberal supporter. (*Applause.*) I have heard with the greatest pleasure the announcement made by His Highness of his intention to erect in the city a new hospital in the place of the somewhat inconvenient building known as the Sujan Hospital, which I visited yesterday. Such a hospital will be of incalculable advantage to His Highness's subjects, and I regard it as a great personal compliment to myself that His Highness should desire to call the new building by my name. I need not tell him that I readily accord the permission for which he has asked. (*Applause.*)

But while I desire to pay honour to His Highness, both as a distinguished Rajput Chief, and as a Ruler of high character, I feel bound, upon the present occasion, to think of him also as the kind and thoughtful host, whose hospitality we have, during the last few days, so much enjoyed. (*Applause.*) For that hospitality I beg to return him my most cordial thanks. I will venture to say for myself, and for those who have accompanied me during my visit, that our comfort could not have been more carefully provided for and that we cordially appreciate the pains which have been taken to render our stay in Oodeypore thoroughly agreeable to us. (*Applause.*) Of the many delights which His Highness has provided for us none has however been greater than that of feasting our eyes upon the marvellous beauties of this city, in which art has done so much to enhance the great beauties already created by Nature. (*Applause.*)

I venture to say that whatever we may have seen before,

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whether in or out of India, and whatever we may yet live to see, we shall never forget the magnificent scene upon which we have gazed from the Palace which His Highness has so kindly placed at our disposal. If ever there was a place worthy to be the home of an illustrious Chief, Oodeypore is such a place. (*Applause.*) I may be permitted to share the regret which His Highness has kindly expressed that Lady Lansdowne should have been prevented from accompanying me upon this occasion. It would, I am sure, have given her as much pleasure at it has given me to visit Oodeypore, and I shall not fail to convey to her the graceful words in which he has referred to her absence.

I now drink to His Highness's health and I trust that His Highness may live for many years to enjoy a spot so full of interesting reminiscences and so unrivalled in its beauty. (*Applause.*)

[The toast was heartily drunk by the Maharana's guests, and then the guests proceeded to the terrace, whence a brilliant display of fireworks was witnessed upon the lake.]

REVIEW OF IMPERIAL SERVICE TROOPS AT JODHPORE.

90. [The Viceroy, with the Agent to the Governor General and His Excellency's staff, arrived at Jodhpore at 5 P.M. on the 5th November, and was received at the Railway station by the Maharaja of Jodhpore, Sir Pertap Singh, all the principal officials of the Jodhpore State, and by Colonel Powlett, the Resident, and other British officials. His Excellency was accompanied [by the Maharaja to the house appointed for his reception, and near which a large camp was pitched for the accommodation of the members of the Viceregal party. On Thursday morning, the 6th November, His Excellency, accompanied by the Maharaja, witnessed a parade of the Imperial Service Cavalry, two regiments of which, each 600 strong, are being gradually formed by the State. The Cavalry, numbering 326, were under the command of Sir Pertap Singh, with whom rode the heir-apparent, the Maharaj-Kunwar, a boy of eleven years old, while four out of the five squadrons of which the troops were composed, were commanded by members of the Jodhpore family.

After the inspection of the regiment by His Excellency, the troops were put through some very striking movements designed to familiarise horses and men with obstacles. These were carried out with considerable skill and spirit and gave evidence of careful training and discipline.

At the close of the parade His Excellency, addressing Sir Pertap Singh, spoke as follows :—]

Before leaving the ground I desire to express the great pleasure which it has given to me to inspect the Sirdar Risala. The reports which I had received from Colonel Melliss and Major Beatson referred to the extraordinary progress which this remarkable body of men has made since it has been placed under special discipline and training, and it has given me the greatest gratification to see them with my own eyes and to observe the soldier-like bearing of the force and the manner in which it is mounted and equipped. You must allow me to compliment you upon the precision and smartness with which the regiment has gone through the movements which I have just witnessed, and I beg that you will be so good as to notify in orders, for the information of your officers and men, the

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statement of my entire satisfaction with all that I have seen this morning.

[The parade was then dismissed.]

BANQUET AT JODHPORE.

[On the evening of the 7th November, His Highness the Maharaja 7th Nov. 1890. of Jodhpore entertained the Viceroy, His Excellency's Staff, and the visitors at the Jodhpore Camp, at a banquet. After dinner the Maharaja, accompanied by Sir Pertap Singh, entered the room and took his seat beside the Viceroy. The toast of the Queen-Empress having been duly honoured, Sir Pertap Singh, on behalf of the Maharaja, rose and proposed the Viceroy's health in the vernacular, which was subsequently translated into English by Colonel Powlett as follows:—]

His Highness heartily thanks Your Excellency for having honoured Jodhpore with a visit, and he greatly regrets the absence of Lady Lansdowne. It has been the good fortune of His Highness to receive at Jodhpore, a Prince of the Imperial family, and, three times, a Viceroy of India, and he is deeply sensible of the honour done him. His Highness is ever conscious of the benefit he derives from the rule of Her Majesty the Empress, and his father before him held the same sentiments; but until now His Highness, through want of a well-organised force, has been unable to give any proof of his readiness to serve Her Majesty in the field. He trusts that the difficulty will now very soon be removed. He cannot suppose that the Sirdar Risala, the organisation of which began but a few months ago, is already equal to the old cavalry regiments of the British Army, but he does claim to have tried to do all that it was possible to do, in a short space of time, towards making it fit for Her Majesty's service, and he is glad to know that Your Excellency considers a good beginning to have been made. Your Excellency's approval and gracious words are a great encouragement to him, and he looks to the future to prove that his troops are worthy of the high expectation formed of them.

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Ladies and gentlemen, His Highness begs that you will join him in drinking the health of His Excellency. (*Applause.*)

[His Excellency the Viceroy in replying to the toast spoke as follows:—]

Your Highness, Colonel Trevor, Ladies and Gentlemen,— I offer my cordial thanks to Your Highness for the manner in which you have proposed the toast of my health, and for the terms in which you have spoken, not only of me, but also of Lady Lansdowne, whose absence during my visit to Jodhpur I much regret.

I notice with great pleasure the manner in which Your Highness has referred to the benefit which your State has derived from the rule of Her Majesty, and to the fact that your father before you was a good friend to the British Government.

I can assure Your Highness of the great value which the Government of India sets upon the confidence and goodwill of the Chiefs and Rulers of the States which owe allegiance to Her Majesty. That these sentiments are not mere professions, Your Highness has shown by the manner in which you have supported the scheme initiated in 1888 by my predecessor, the Marquis of Dufferin, for giving to a portion of the troops of certain Indian States a training calculated to fit them to co-operate with the forces of Her Majesty in the event of any serious danger threatening the Indian Empire. (*Applause.*) I trust that Your Highness will allow me to express my admiration for the magnificent body of troops which appeared under the command of Your Highness's brother, Sir Pertap Singh, upon parade yesterday morning. The Sirdar Risala has, I understand, been for less than a year under special training, and the extraordinary smartness of the regiment is only to be explained by the fact that to both officers and men the service is a labour of love. (*Applause.*) The Chief Inspecting Officer, Colonel Melliss, has reported to me that in no State has a greater spirit of enthusiasm been mani-

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fested than in this—a spirit which I believe exists in the breast of every one of Your Highness's Rajput subjects from the Prime Minister downwards. (*Applause.*) I trust that the time may be far distant when the Government of India may find itself called upon to ask the Jodhpur State for the use of its troops, but of this I feel sure, that should that time ever come, the Sirdar Risala, and the distinguished officer who commands it, will claim a place which will give them an opportunity of showing that the chivalrous traditions of the Rahtore family have not been forgotten in the State. (*Applause.*)

It is satisfactory to me to know that your devotion to military matters has not prevented you from bestowing a close attention upon other questions concerning the welfare and prosperity of the State. The Jodhpur State Railway, the only one which has been built by a Native Chief in this part of India, was opened eight years ago, and is, I am glad to hear, working well, and at a profit, under the management of the able engineer whose services the Government of India placed at Your Highness's disposal. I trust that the Railway, now under construction from Jodhpur to Bikanir at the joint expense of the two States, may be opened before the end of next year, and will be an advantage to both of them.

In other respects the administration of Marwar has been most creditable to those concerned in it. The finances of the State, the condition of which must at one time have occasioned Your Highness some uneasiness, have been placed in order. Crime and outlawry have, I understand, been put down, and Your Highness's Durbar has bestowed much attention upon the wise project for colonising the criminal tribes. Courts of justice have been established, not only at the capital, but throughout the State, and are working under well-considered arrangements and rules. Nor can I omit a reference to the reforms which have been made in the Customs Department of the State,

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reforms by means of which many vexatious and unremunerative duties have been abolished, whilst on other articles they have been reduced. As recently as May last, Your Highness, at the instance of the Government of India, was pleased to abolish all transit duties, a step which will, I believe, tend greatly to increase trade facilities, without involving any material sacrifice of revenue to Your Highness's Exchequer. I may also mention the fact that a new land revenue system has recently been introduced under the supervision of Major Loch, the Assistant Resident, and finally that several questions affecting the external boundaries of the State, which had for many years remained unsettled, have been satisfactorily disposed of. All these improvements are highly creditable to the administration of the State, and afford conclusive evidence of the soundness of the advice which Your Highness's Durbar has received from Colonel Powlétt, who, I am glad to know, enjoys Your Highness's entire confidence. (*Applause.*)

Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is the health of the Chief of this prosperous and well-administered State, as well as that of the host who has so kindly and hospitably entertained us, that I now ask you to drink.

I give you the health of His Highness the Maharaja.

[The toast was warmly received.]

OPENING A NEW HOSPITAL AT JEYPORE.

[The Viceregal party left Jodhpore on the night of the 8th November for Mount Abu, where His Excellency spent a couple of days, as the guest of Colonel Trevor, after which the party proceeded to Jeypore, arriving there on the morning of the 12th November. Here His Excellency was received with the customary formalities by the Maharaja of Jeypore, Colonel Prideaux, the Resident, Surgeon-Major Hendley, Residency Surgeon, and the principal officers and jaghirdars of the State. His Excellency remained at the Residency during his stay. 14th Nov. 1890.]

On the afternoon of the 14th November the Viceroy inspected the Jeypore Transport Corps, and afterwards laid the foundation-stone of a new hospital (the twenty-seventh founded in the State). A shamiana had been pitched over the site, and the Maharaja with the principal State officials received His Excellency beneath it. Dr. Hendley read a statement of the reasons for building this new institution, and at its conclusion Colonel Prideaux explained that His Highness desired that the Viceroy would permit the hospital to be called after his name, in commemoration of His Excellency's visit to Jeypore. Lord Lansdowne then spoke as follows :—]

Your Highness, Colonel Trevor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Your Highness has paid me a compliment, which I greatly appreciate, in asking me to lay the foundation-stone of this hospital. It is, I understand, destined, primarily, for the purpose of providing accommodation for patients belonging to the new Transport Corps, which Your Highness is now organising as a contribution to the defences of the Empire. It is also intended to give medical relief to the employes of several most useful institutions in which Your Highness takes a special interest, and which employ some 2,000 work-people, and, in the next place, for the benefit of the sick poor in this neighbourhood. I feel no doubt that the work-people employed in the Cotton Press and the Water-works, as well as the sick and suffering poor generally, will derive the greatest advantage from the hospital accommodation which will be provided for them here, while the efficiency of the Transport Corps will certainly be increased by the reservation of a special

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ward, with a qualified staff ready to take the field with it whenever it is employed on active service.

A great debt of gratitude is due to Your Highness and your predecessors for all that has been done in the Jeypore State for the relief of the sick and injured. This is, as Dr. Hendley informs us, the twenty-seventh institution of this kind, which has been established in the State. I have lately had the pleasure of visiting the admirable Mayo Hospital, to which reference was made in your address, and I can say, without hesitation, that it is one of the best contrived, and most suitable, hospital buildings which it has ever been my good fortune to inspect. The number of cases which have been treated during the last few years, show that Your Highness's subjects are not indifferent to the great advantages which have been placed within their reach.

Your Highness's liberality to institutions of this kind is valuable, both on account of the benefits which it will confer upon your State and upon your own subjects, and also from the fact that you are setting an example which will, I have no doubt, be followed in other parts of India.

There is no claim to the gratitude of posterity higher than that which is established by the creation of beneficent institutions of this kind. In former days it was frequently the practice of Chiefs and Rulers to perpetuate their name by the erection of buildings designed rather to gratify their personal caprice, or their love of beautiful architecture, than to serve any really useful purpose. I believe that those who, like Your Highness, are content to be remembered as the benefactors of their fellow-men, will earn for themselves a more lasting distinction and popularity than the builders even of the most splendid monuments. The magnificence of such monuments proves that those who built them were indeed lovers and patrons of art, but not that they possessed that sympathy with human suffering and affliction which is one of the noblest attributes of a great ruler. (*Applause.*)

[Distribution of prizes at the Maharaja's College (Jeypore).]

I thank Your Highness in the name of the Government of India for the good work which you are about to add to those with which your name, and that of your predecessors, are already associated. (*Applause.*)

I need not say that I most cordially accept Your Highness's kind proposal that the new hospital should be called by my name, although I cannot help adding that it would, in my opinion, have been more appropriate that it should have been called after its generous founder, the Madho Singh Hospital. (*Applause.*)

[His Excellency then proceeded to lay the foundation-stone.]

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE MAHARAJA'S COLLEGE (JEYPORE).

[After laying the foundation-stone of the hospital described above, 14th Nov. 1890. His Excellency, accompanied by the Maharaja of Jeypore, drove to the "Maharaja's College." It was prize-day at this institution, and the quadrangle was filled with students and spectators. An address of welcome was read by the Principal, on behalf of the professors and teachers. Due stress was laid upon the advantages of a liberal educational policy, such as the Rulers of Jeypore had steadfastly followed and which had resulted in increasing loyalty to the paramount Power and the Maharaja, and Jeypore was described as probably the only State in Rajputana that could boast of a goodly number of graduates who had distinguished themselves in the higher examinations of the Calcutta, Allahabad, and Punjab Universities.]

At the conclusion of this address, His Excellency the Viceroy rose and spoke as follows:—]

Your Highness, Colonel Trevor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It gives me much pleasure to accept this address and to pay a visit to the Maharaja's College, in which, I know, he takes so warm an interest, and which is very appropriately placed as it were under the very shadow of His Highness's palace.

I have listened with much satisfaction to the statement showing the progress of education in the State of Jeypore,

Distribution of prizes at the Maharaja's College (Jeypore).

which has been made by the Principal of the College. That statement is a most encouraging one. The Jeypore State has many things to be proud of; it is proud of its large population, of its wealth, the beauty of its capital city, and of the many improvements which have been carried out within it, but there is no subject with regard to which the Jeypore State has more right to feel that it occupies a prominent position than the subject of education. I understand that there are now no less than 20,000 male students under instruction in the State, and I believe it is the case that, within the last year, no less than 4,000 additional students have come under tuition. That is a most remarkable and a most satisfactory record, and it proves I think that the Education Department, since it was re-organised two or three years ago, has been able to accomplish very creditable and satisfactory results. I have lately had the advantage of seeing a statement showing the success which has been achieved by some of the Jeypore students in the attainment of University distinctions, and I find that no less than 92 students during the last three years have been successful at the different University examinations, and that, of these, two obtained M. A. and five B. A. degrees. These were the first students in Rajputana to obtain any distinctions of that kind. I also see in the same statement that in the Oriental Examinations of the Punjab University a similar measure of success was arrived at.

I desire to congratulate His Highness the Maharaja upon the good results which his liberal encouragement of higher education have secured. If, however, Mr. Principal; I may venture before I sit down to give one word of advice to the teachers and students of the college it would be this, that you should remember that University distinctions are not the only object of education. I noticed, during my drive through the city, upon one of the handsome arches which have been erected in honour of my visit, a maxim with which we Englishmen are very familiar—"Fear God,

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honour the King."—That is a maxim worthy of respect in all parts of the British Empire, and I have no doubt that it is respected here. If you, Mr. Principal and your assistants are able to teach the 20,000 of the rising generation of the Maharaja's subjects to observe that rule by showing themselves loyal, law-abiding, contented and industrious members of the community, faithful to the State of which they are subjects, true to their allegiance to the Government of the Queen, and ready to do their duty honorably and conscientiously in the station to which Providence has called them, you will reflect even greater credit upon this College than if you enable any number of your students to win B. As. and M. As. in the Universities of India. (*Applause.*)

I will now, if you will allow me, present some of the prizes to the successful students.

BANQUET AT JEYPORE.

[On Saturday evening, the 15th November, the Maharaja of 15th Nov. 1890. Jeypore entertained the Viceroy, His Excellency's Staff, the Agent to the Governor General, and a number of other guests at a banquet in the palace. The whole length of the road from the Residency to the city walls was brilliantly lighted, while the palace itself was also illuminated within and without. The Maharaja received the Viceroy, the Agent to the Governor-General, and his guests, in the Banqueting Hall. At the conclusion of dinner His Highness, accompanied by the principal officers of his State, entered and took a seat by the Viceroy. His Excellency proposed the health of the Queen-Empress, and then the Maharaja proposed that of His Excellency, his speech being read by the Prime Minister as follows :—]

Your Excellency,^E_x *Colonel Trevor, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—I am very thankful to Your Excellency for the great honor you have been pleased to confer on me and my people by this friendly visit to my capital, and for affording me to-night the pleasure of your company.

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The accounts of the loyal demonstrations which have greeted every step of Your Excellency's progress through Rajputana, have given me great pleasure, while they have increased a sense of diffidence in my being able to give Your Excellency a reception such as I should wish.

I am very sorry that the Marchioness of Lansdowne has not been able to accompany Your Excellency to Rajputana. The presence of Her Excellency among us would have added greatly to the rejoicings upon this auspicious occasion. I venture to express the hope that Your Excellency will be able to visit Jeypore again accompanied by Lady Lansdowne. (*Applause.*)

[His Excellency the Viceroy then rose and said :—]

Your Highness, Colonel Trevor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I return Your Highness my sincere thanks for the friendly and complimentary terms in which you have proposed my health and Lady Lansdowne's. It was a source of the greatest disappointment to her to forego her visit to Jeypore, and I am sure that she will be doubly disappointed when I repeat to her Your Highness's expressions of regret for her absence on this occasion.

For myself, permit me to say that it gives me the greatest pleasure to renew my acquaintance with Your Highness, to find myself Your Highness's guest in your own city, and to have an opportunity of seeing something of this important State and of its capital. My visit to the city of Jeypore has been most interesting, and I cannot express too strongly my admiration for all that I have seen since I have been here. The city, with its broad and well-paved and well-lit thoroughfares, its admirable water-supply, the works connected with which I had the pleasure of visiting in Your Highness's company, its improved conservancy arrangements, its industrial establishments, its library and public reading-room, its public gardens and its hospitals and dispensaries, to which I have already had occasion to refer, may certainly claim that it is in advance of any other

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city in this part of India. (*Applause.*) I hope we may ere long be able to mention, in addition to the useful works which I have enumerated, a railway extending from Jeypore in the direction of the Chambal River—a line which could not fail to develope greatly the resources of Your Highness's State, and which, if constructed, would, in all probability, some day form a portion of a much larger system of railways, uniting Your Highness's territories with important districts to the south and east of them, for which reason you have decided that the line, if it is to be made at all, should be made upon the standard gauge. It has given me much pleasure, since my arrival here, to place at the disposal of the Darbar the services of an experienced engineer of the Public Works Department, who will at once address himself to the business of making the necessary surveys. (*Applause.*) I must also express the gratification with which I have observed the efforts which Your Highness is making for advancing the intellectual as well as the material improvement of your subjects. The college which I had the privilege of visiting yesterday and the numerous other educational institutions of the State bear testimony to this. Nor must I forget to mention, as an educational institution of great value, the Albert Hall—a beautiful and appropriate building, one of many admirable buildings which this country owes to Colonel Jacob (*applause*)—with its interesting and instructive collections, which are, I understand, visited in the course of the year by something like a quarter of a million persons, a result which must be eminently satisfactory to Dr. Hendley, to whose earnest devotion to this and to all useful and beneficent works the State owes so much, and who has been so liberally and consistently supported by Your Highness's Government. (*Applause.*) I must also express the satisfaction with which I was to-day introduced to a somewhat kindred institution—I mean the School of Art, a number of the employés of which I had an

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opportunity of seeing engaged upon the different industries. The success of the exhibition held a few years ago, of the manufactures and art-works of Rajputana at Jeypore, and the excellence of the contribution made by the State to the Indian and Colonial Exhibition in London, may, I think, be regarded as a proof that the arts and industries of Jeypore will not be suffered to lose anything of their excellence owing to want of encouragement on the part of the State. (*Applause.*)

One of the objects of my tour has, as Your Highness is aware, been to see something of the corps which are being organized in the different States for purposes of Imperial defence, and I desire to take this opportunity of publicly expressing my obligation to Your Highness for the service which you are rendering to the Government of India in organizing a Transport Corps to be used as part of the resources of the Government of India in the event of any serious danger threatening the Empire. (*Applause.*) I think that General Collen will agree with me when I say that there is no portion of a properly organized army upon which its success more depends than that portion which is concerned with its transport. Unless this is effectually attended to, no body of troops, however well-armed, equipped or disciplined, can be successfully made use of at the moment when it is most required. It would therefore be a very mistaken view to consider that the State of Jeypore in contributing a Transport Corps to the Imperial Service is making a contribution less valuable, or less honourable to itself, than if it were to contribute, as other States have done, a body of cavalry or of infantry. (*Applause.*)

Your Highness's Transport Corps will eventually consist of no less than 1,000 ponies and 400 carts, and although its organisation was commenced only a year ago, one-third of these are now ready for service, and the whole will, I am assured, be completed within two years. During the past

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year cart-sheds, harness rooms, lines for horses, and accommodation for men, have been provided, all of a workman-like and useful description. The ponies which have been purchased are, I am informed, excellently adapted to their work, while the carts and equipment are of the strongest and most suitable pattern obtainable.

The chief inspecting officer, Colonel Melliss, reports to me that there is no transport corps in India better organized, and General Badcock, the Commissary General, whose authority on all questions of this kind is second to none, has expressed to me his great admiration of the corps and its equipment, and his surprise at the rapidity with which it has been called into existence (*Applause.*) I am glad to know that while the corps will certainly be of material value to the Empire in time of war, it will also serve to fulfil a useful purpose to the Jeypore State in time of peace. It is indeed obvious that, in a State like that of Your Highness, there must be abundant work, such as the carriage of coal, grain, and grass into the city, upon which these carts and ponies might be employed with good results to the corps itself and to the State which provides it. The progress which has been made by the corps would have been impossible without the personal support which Your Highness has given to the movement, and the energy shown by the State officials who have been connected with its development, and who have so cordially supported the British officers specially employed in this service. (*Applause.*)

With my visit to Jeypore my tour in Rajputana comes, I am sorry to say, to an end. It has been most interesting and instructive to me, and I shall carry away with me a vivid impression of the kindness and hospitality with which I have been treated by the Chiefs whose guest I have been, and of their profound loyalty and faithfulness. (*Applause.*)

It has been specially gratifying to me to receive at the conclusion of my tour the assurances of Your Highness's personal good-will and devotion to the paramount Power,

Address from the Delhi Municipality.

as well as your outspoken recognition of the fact that it is the first duty of every Ruling Chief to promote the welfare of his people and to secure the prosperity of his Raj. It will be a great pleasure to me if I can at any time during my term of office be of assistance to Your Highness. (*Applause.*)

Colonel Trevor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I now beg to propose the health of His Highness the Maharaja, and I am sure that you will all of you allow me to thank His Highness in your name for the great hospitality and kindness with which he has received us at Jeypore. (*Applause.*)

[The Maharaja's health having been drunk, Colonel Prideaux briefly acknowledged it on behalf of His Highness, and all then proceeded to the terrace to witness a very fine display of fire-works.]

ADDRESS FROM THE AGRA MUNICIPALITY.

[Their Excellencies the Viceroy and the Marchioness of Lansdowne arrived at Agra on Saturday morning, the 22nd October, and were received by Sir Auckland Colvin, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, the principal Civil and Military authorities, and a number of Native Noblemen, chief among whom were the Maharaja of Bhurtpore, the Maharana of Dholpur, the Raja of Kerowlie, and the Chief of Badawur. An address of welcome was presented to the Viceroy on the station platform by the Members of the Municipality, to which His Excellency replied as follows:—]

Mr. Chairman and Members of Municipal Board,—I return you my cordial thanks for the kind manner in which you have welcomed me to this famous city, and for the expressions of confidence and good-will with which you have referred to my appointment as Her Majesty's representative in India. My visit to Agra has been deferred longer than I could have wished, a postponement which—I trust, you will not regard as an indication of indifference on my part. I need scarcely assure you of the delightful anticipations with which I have come here, and with which

Address from the Agra Municipality.

I look forward to visiting the marvellous edifices with which the celebrity of Agra is so closely connected. I feel sure that those anticipations are, in no sense, likely to be disappointed.

It is perhaps not too much to expect that a city with traditions and associations, such as those of which you are so proud, should endeavour to make its present worthy of so great a past. I rejoice to know that this feeling prevails in your Municipality, and that its members take a personal interest in such matters as the promotion of education, the extension of hospitals, and the introduction of other valuable improvements. I propose during my stay at Agra to visit both of the institutions to which you have specially referred—I mean the Agra College and the Lady Dufferin Hospital, in which I need not tell you that Lady Lansdowne is prepared to take a special interest. I am able to bear my own testimony to the correctness of your statement that useful movements of this kind have no truer friend in India than His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, upon whose co-operation you properly set a high value.

Gentlemen, I feel no doubt that the hope to which you have so kindly given utterance that our sojourn in Agra may prove interesting and agreeable to us is likely to be fulfilled, and considering that Agra is not only one of the most interesting, but one of the most accessible, places in India, I will venture, in spite of that tendency towards caution which is generally observed by official personages to express my confident expectation that our visit is likely to be repeated before we leave India.

I tender you my thanks for your address, and have the greatest pleasure in accepting it.

DURBAR AT AGRA.

[On Monday afternoon, the 24th November, the Viceroy held a Durbar at Agra for the Chiefs and Native gentlemen of the Agra, Meerut, and Rohilcund Divisions of the North-Western Provinces. The durbar was held in the large *shamiana* of the Viceroy's camp, and there were present about 400 durbaris, besides a large number of European community as spectators. After the ceremony of presenting the durbaris personally to the Viceroy had been gone through, His Excellency rose and addressed the assembly as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—It gives me great pleasure to meet so large a number of gentlemen from the Agra, Meerut, and Rohilcund Divisions of this Province. The tours which it has been customary for the Representative of the Crown to make in India have this advantage that they not only give him the opportunity of making the personal acquaintance of the ruling Chiefs, and the leading men in the States which he visits, but also afford him occasions for meeting the principal land-owners and gentlemen of the British Indian districts through which he passes.

I hope I may be permitted to congratulate the gentlemen whom I now have the pleasure of addressing, upon the general prosperity enjoyed by this part of the country—a prosperity which is all the more welcome from the fact that at one moment, owing to the unwonted cessation of the rains during the months of August and September, the crops upon the ground were seriously injured, and the prospects of the spring crop gravely imperilled. The recommencement of the rains in the early part of the autumn has, I trust, given a fair promise for the spring harvest.

The Government of India is always glad to avail itself of the assistance and co-operation of gentlemen of wealth and position, such as those whom I see before me, and in these days many opportunities are given to them of use-

Durbar at Agra.

fully exercising their influence. We hope, for example, to find them taking a foremost place in the 'promotion of all enterprises of public utility, or calculated to promote the health and the material well-being of the community. Amongst such enterprises a prominent place should be given to works of the kind recently undertaken by the Municipalities of your principal cities, and of these works, none are more valuable than those which have had for their object the securing of a supply of pure water to the people of the larger towns. In the promotion of such works the City of Agra has, I am glad to say, led the way, while Allahabad, Benares, and Cawnpore have followed suit, and I have no doubt that other important places will profit by the good example which has thus been set them.

I am also glad to refer to the great liberality with which the Dufferin Fund has been supported in these Provinces. Medical schools and hospitals are now, I rejoice to say, rapidly springing up in all parts of India, and it has given me much pleasure to hear of the steps which have been taken in this direction in the City of Agra.

It has also been satisfactory to me to watch the efforts which have been made in different parts of the Province to encourage higher education, and I trust that the Allahabad University may be the means of greatly stimulating the general interest in this important matter.

In this connection I may say that I shall await with interest the schemes for the promotion of technical education, which are, I understand, under the consideration of the provincial authorities.

Another question of general interest to all sections of the community is that of police administration. This question is now under examination by a committee which has not yet completed its deliberations, but its appointment has given to all classes an opportunity of making their views and requirements known.

I desire to repeat on this occasion an observation which

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I lately made in the City of Delhi in reference to the unseemly disputes which have from time to time arisen between the Hindu and the Mahomedan populations. Nothing is more calculated to retard the progress of these provinces than the perpetuation of a feeling of this kind. Nor can any censure be too strong for those misguided persons who have been the means of fanning the slumbering embers of discontent among the people. I may mention to you, in reference to this matter, that Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, whose deep interest in all that concerns India is well known to you, and who watches the progress of events in this country with the closest attention, has more than once expressed to me her abhorrence of the feelings of intolerance and bitterness which have engendered such breaches of the peace. I was glad to be able to report to Her Majesty that during the Mohurram this year the conduct of the citizens of Agra had been exemplary, and I trust that those to whom we naturally look as the leaders of public opinion will use their influence not only to prevent commotions and disturbances, but to promote amongst the different sections of the community, regardless of their religious denomination, feelings of mutual forbearance and good-will. The Government of India is fully prepared to do its duty in repressing disorders arising from this cause with a strong hand, but it is for you, rather than for us, to put a stop to the bitter antagonisms and sectional jealousies of which these disorders are the outward symptom.

I have, during the last few weeks, had the pleasure of visiting some of the principal States of Rajputana, and I am glad to see the ruling Chiefs of three of those States—Kerowlie, Bhurtpore, and Dholepore—in this Durbar, as well as the representative of Rampur, one of the two Native States of this Province. The young Chief of Tehri, the other State, was amongst the youths introduced to me at the Mayo College at Ajmere, and it was gratifying to me to observe evidences of his educational progress.

I should like to take this opportunity of mentioning a

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matter which has attracted my attention during my recent visit to Rajputana.

Amongst the Rajput States there has, for some time past, been in progress a most admirable movement for curtailing the ruinous expenses incurred in accordance with ancient custom in the celebration of marriages and funeral feasts. This movement was initiated about three years ago in accordance with the wishes of the Chiefs and Nobles of Rajputana, and suitable rules were framed for the purpose of restricting expenditure of this kind. Each State now has a committee of its own, whose duty it is to see that these rules are observed. The movement was of a spontaneous character, and although it owed much to the encouragement of Colonel Walter, the late Governor-General's Agent, who enjoyed so large a measure of the confidence of the States concerned, there can be no doubt that its success was due mainly to the fact that it afforded a real and substantial relief to the persons most concerned. The Chiefs and Thakurs of Rajputana are, I think, much to be congratulated on the wisdom which they have shown in this matter, and I feel no doubt that they will persevere in the judicious course which they have adopted. Their example is, it seems to me, worthy of imitation, and will, I cannot help hoping, be followed in other States. The question is, however, one which does not rest with the Government of India, and all that I can do, as the head of that Government, is to express my admiration for the sagacity and moral courage of the authors of the movement, and my hope that they will not be allowed to stand alone in supporting it.

I will not end what I have to say to you to-day, nor take leave of the ruling Chiefs of Rajputana, without acknowledging the personal courtesy to myself and the loyalty to the British Empire displayed by all the ruling Chiefs whom it has been my good fortune to meet. The feelings which they have professed are, I am sure, founded upon

Visit to Bhurtpore.

a deep conviction that the treatment which they have experienced at the hands of the British Government is such as to justify their entire confidence. They are aware that we desire to offer them all the support and encouragement which we can give, to avoid any encroachment upon their rights, and to maintain their territories intact, and their dignity unsullied.

VISIT TO BHURTPORE.

190 [During the Viceroy's stay at Agra, he paid a brief visit to Bhurt-pore, where His Excellency and his staff were received with much hospitality by the Maharaja. On the evening of the Viceroy's arrival at Bhurt-pore, the Maharaja entertained the Viceregal party at dinner, after which His Highness proposed the health of the Queen Empress, and then that of His Excellency in the following terms :—]

Your Excellency and Gentlemen,—It affords me much pride and pleasure to receive Your Excellency here to-day. I look upon this year as a most auspicious one to myself, for at the commencement of it I had the honor to receive a visit from His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor, then in May, on the anniversary of the birthday of the Queen-Empress, Government was pleased to increase my salute from 17 to 19 guns, and now I have the pleasure of seeing Your Excellency here to-day; and had Her Excellency Lady Lansdowne been able to accompany Your Excellency my satisfaction would have been complete.

I am ever conscious of the benefits derived from the British rule, and am glad of the opportunity of placing the best of my troops at the disposal of Government. Your Excellency is kindly going to inspect those troops to-morrow, and I feel sure that should occasion ever arise to call them forth to aid in the defence of the Empire, that they will show by their behaviour on service the loyalty and devotion they and their Chief bear towards the Queen-Empress.

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I regret Your Excellency's stay here is so short, but brief as it is, I will always look back upon it with pride and pleasure, and I hope you will enjoy it and take away with you pleasing recollections of your visit to Bhurtpore. And now, gentlemen, I ask you to drink the health of His Excellency the Viceroy, and when doing so, to couple with it that of Her Excellency Lady Lansdowne.

[His Excellency the Viceroy replied to the toast as follows :—]

I thank Your Highness for the friendly terms in which you have been good enough to propose my health. Although I have had the pleasure of exchanging visits with you and *meeting you upon more than one occasion during my stay* in Agra, it is most agreeable to me to renew my acquaintance with you in your own State. Nor can I upon this occasion fail to call to mind that you were the first ruling Chief who came to Calcutta to pay his respects to me after my arrival in this country two years ago.

I listened with much pleasure to your reference to the honour which has been done you during the course of the present year, first, by the visit which the Duke of Clarence paid to Bhurtpore, and secondly, by the increase in the number of guns to which Your Highness is entitled.

I am able to tell you that His Royal Highness regarded his visit to your State as one of the pleasantest incidents of his tour in India. The decision of the Government of India to increase Your Highness's salute was due to my conviction that as a just and capable Ruler, and as the Chief of the principal Jat State, you were entitled to this distinction, which it gave me much pleasure to confer upon you. (*Applause.*)

I am sure that when Your Highness professes your loyalty to the British Crown and your sense of the advantages which you enjoy under British rule, you are expressing your real feelings and convictions. You gave proof of their sincerity by coming forward at the time when my predecessor, Lord Dufferin, agreed to accept the assistance of

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the Native States, and offering to contribute a large sum of money towards the defences of the Empire, as well as to place the whole of the resources of the State at the disposal of the Government of India. The first of these offers we were, for reasons of public policy, unable to accept. I am glad, however, to know that Your Highness has, at this moment, one regiment of cavalry and another of infantry under special training, in order to fit them to take their place as part of the defensive forces of the Empire.

I hope to have the pleasure of seeing these selected troops on parade to-morrow morning, and I have already had the advantage of seeing the cavalry regiment put through the lance exercise by the gallant officer who commands it, in the most creditable manner. I am glad to learn from the reports of the inspecting officers that both regiments have made considerable progress. Your Highness is too good a soldier to expect me to tell you that in the short time during which they have been under special training, they have arrived at perfection. It is only by slow degrees that such a force can be rendered fit to take the field, but I believe that an excellent beginning has been made. It is not easy at the outset to secure the services of a body of officers competent to take charge of such a force, but I have no doubt that as time goes on these will be forthcoming.

I hope also that after a while Your Highness will find it possible to recruit both regiments from amongst the subjects of your own State. We attach very great importance to that condition being fulfilled. In the meanwhile it is satisfactory to me to know that a fair measure of progress has been arrived at, which I am certain would not have been reached had it not been for the personal interest which Your Highness takes in the drill and discipline of the force. As to the loyalty and devotion of Your Highness's troops, and that of the Ruler of the Bhurtpore State, I feel no misgivings whatsoever. (*Applause.*)

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It only remains for me, before I sit down, to thank Your Highness for the manner in which you have referred to Lady Lansdowne's absence. I am glad that she has already made the acquaintance of Your Highness and of some of the younger members of Your Highness's family, and I wish it had been possible for her to accompany me on this occasion.

I now beg to drink Your Highness's health, and to thank you heartily for the hospitality with which you have received us. (*Applause.*)

[His Excellency, His Highness, and the guests then adjourned to the terrace, whence they witnessed a brilliant display of fire-works in the court yard below.]

On the following day the Viceroy and his staff visited the ancient Fortress of Deeg, where they were entertained by the Maharaja at luncheon in a picturesque palace standing on the margin of an ornamental piece of water. In the evening they returned to Agra by train.]

G. I. C. P, O,—No. 5 P. S, to V,—13-3-91,—150,
